



Daily Report

East Asia

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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Japan

Source Says Yeltsin Not To Apologize for POWs

OW0810143293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1420 GMT
8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin is not expected to make an apology for exploiting Japanese prisoners of war in Siberia after World War II nor will he visit a graveyard for war dead in central Tokyo during his scheduled visit to Japan next week, sources well versed in Russo-Japan relations said Friday [8 October]. Instead, Yeltsin is likely to express "deep sorrows" to Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa at summit talks for the former POWs in Siberia and their bereaved families, the sources said.

By expressing "deep sorrows," Yeltsin will upgrade a remark made in April 1991 by then Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev who expressed "sympathy" for the former prisoners in Siberia, the sources said. The president is scheduled to arrive in Japan on Monday for a three-day official visit. Tokyo and Moscow had considered having Yeltsin lay flowers at the graveyard for the war dead. But Moscow informed the Foreign Ministry on Friday that Yeltsin would not visit the graveyard at the Imperial Palace's Chidorigafuchi Moat without clarifying reasons, they said.

While the Japanese opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) decided Friday that LDP President Yohei Kono will issue a statement during Yeltsin's visit urging the Russian leader to apologize for the former prisoners in Siberia, party officials said. The statement will also express regret over Yeltsin's clampdown on the Russian parliament earlier this week, they said.

Historians say about 600,000 Japanese soldiers were captured by the former Soviet Union in northeastern China and detained for two to 11 years in Siberian labor camps after Japan surrendered in 1945. Of the prisoners, some 68,000 people were said to have died.

Yeltsin, Hosokawa May Hold 3 Rounds of Talks

OW0810022793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0210 GMT
8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin may hold three rounds of talks with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa when he visits Japan next week, Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said Friday [8 October].

"If the Diet schedule permits, there may be three rounds of meetings," instead of the originally scheduled two rounds of talks, the top government spokesman said at a regular news conference. Apart from that, Takemura stated there is no change in the schedule of the Russian president's visit to Japan from Monday through Wednesday.

Yeltsin and Hosokawa are expected to discuss world affairs and bilateral relations, including the decades-old territorial dispute involving four Russian-held islands off northern Japan.

The Russian president twice canceled a planned official visit to Japan, once in September 1992 and again in May this year. He came to Tokyo in July to meet with leaders of the Group of Seven major industrialized nations after their annual summit talks. Doubts surfaced about Yeltsin's upcoming visit to Japan after the violence in Moscow earlier this week.

Yeltsin sent tanks and troops against the Russian Parliament to crush his parliamentary foes in fiery battles that left more than 100 people dead. He accused his opponents of launching an armed uprising. Russian officials confirmed Tuesday that Yeltsin would make the visit to Japan as planned.

Russian Official Excluded From Delegation

OW0810043493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0416 GMT
8 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 8 KYODO—Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Gregoriy Kunadze will not accompany President Boris Yeltsin on his visit to Japan next week, suggesting an uncompromising stance toward a bilateral territorial row, Foreign Ministry sources said Thursday [7 October]. The exclusion of Kunadze, known as the main backer of Yeltsin's foreign policy based on "law and justice," suggests ministry hard-liners have increased their influence in policy on the dispute, the sources said.

Kunadze has insisted Russia should acknowledge the 1956 Japan-Soviet Joint Declaration which stipulates Moscow will return two of four disputed islands off northern Japan. The two countries will make a joint statement during Yeltsin's three-day visit to Tokyo from Monday in which the ministry conservatives are likely to press for not clearly acknowledging the declaration. The sources said it is very unusual for a deputy foreign minister not to accompany the Russian president on an official visit to a foreign nation.

His absence means he has lost influence in the ministry and officials who once belonged to the former Soviet Foreign Ministry must have attained greater power in deciding Russian policies on Japan, they said.

The territorial dispute has prevented the two countries from signing a peace treaty and proceeding with major economic cooperation. The islands—Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan and the Habomai group of islets—were seized by the Soviet Army at the end of World War II. In the 1956 declaration, Moscow pledged to return Shikotan and the Habomai islets to Japan after concluding the peace treaty.

In Tokyo, Japanese Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata said Friday he will make request Russia to pay more respect

to human rights when Yeltsin comes to Tokyo. Hata told a press conference he regrets the recent bloodshed in Moscow and will urge Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev Russia to value the freedom of speech.

Hata also criticized a call by Japan's largest opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) for cautious diplomacy during Yeltsin's visit, saying, "it is important to talk with a neighboring country frankly."

Some senior LDP members, including former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, blamed Yeltsin for ordering a military attack on Russian conservatives in the parliament building earlier this week.

Yeltsin has restored stability in Moscow after crushing Sunday and Monday the revolt against his reform drive and dissolution of the legislature.

Survey Finds Mutual Distrust With Russia

OW0810080693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0746 GMT
8 Oct 93

["News Focus" by Miu Oikawa Dieter: "Mutual Distrust Keeps Japan-Russia Ties Chilly—second in a series on Russian President Yeltsin's visit to Japan"]

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Warm images such as Russian burns victims leaving Japan all smiles after treatment or Japanese making visa-free visits to Russian-held islands off Hokkaido would seem to indicate relations between Japan and its vast neighbor are steadily improving. But despite such interaction at an individual level over the past few years, various opinion polls show that for many Japanese, Russia is still the country they like or trust least.

A national survey in June found nearly 60 percent of respondents viewing Russo-Japanese relations as chilly and more than 20 percent distrusting the Russian Government.

"The Japanese don't have good feelings about Russia," said one government official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"It's not just because of World War II, but also geopolitical reasons," the official said, referring to the imperial Russia's expansion to the south.

Though not as outspoken, other government officials concede ties are indeed frosty, particularly after Russian President Boris Yeltsin twice called off planned visits in the past year. They said the abrupt cancellations soured ties which had improved somewhat through former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's ground-breaking visit to Japan in 1991.

"The Japanese image of Russia should have improved when the Soviet Union collapsed and Yeltsin came to power, putting an end to socialism," said Shigeki Hakamada, professor of Aoyama Gakuin University. "But

Yeltsin failed to understand that. His cancellations of the visits were decisive in creating a bad image," he said.

The Japanese also feel that Russia does not show any respect when dealing with Japan as it does with the United States or European countries, Hakamada said. The decades-old territorial dispute over four islands seized by the Soviet Union at the end of the war has obstructed a complete normalization of ties as no peace treaty has been signed nearly 50 years after the war.

Japan has been claiming the return of all the islands—Etorofu, Shikotan, Kunashiri and the Habomai islets—as a prerequisite for concluding the treaty, and has been reluctant to provide major financial aid.

Apart from the territorial row, other historical factors such as the Soviet Union's entry into the Pacific phase of the war in August 1945 despite a 1941 neutrality pact with Japan and its detention of some 600,000 Japanese prisoners of war in Siberia, created the distrust, historians say. The feeling seems to be mutual.

Aleksandr Panov, Russian ambassador to South Korea and formerly head of the Foreign Ministry's Asia-Pacific Division, has said that for decades, negative feelings toward Japan persisted in the Soviet leadership, and diplomats of both sides had dry, rigid relationships.

In his book "Beyond Distrust and Trust," Panov wrote that former Communist Party bureaucrats, despite the fact they regularly visited Japan to meet leaders in various fields, consistently claimed Japan should not be trusted and Moscow alert to Tokyo's political and military ambitions.

Panov, who played an instrumental role in realizing Gorbachev's visit, said the distrust stemmed from "negative historical memories," such as Russia's defeat in the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05.

Unlike clashes with European nations, which Russia regarded as "discord among fellow relatives," its loss in the war to an oriental country with a different religion, tradition and culture, was particularly severe, he wrote.

The distrust further strengthened in 1918 when Japan joined Britain, France and the United States in dispatching troops to Siberia to intervene in the civil war against communist forces.

On the eve of Yeltsin's rescheduled trip next week, Foreign Ministry officials expressed hope the visit will serve as "an important first step" toward fully normalizing ties, while predicting no major development regarding the territorial dispute. But many doubt the trip will translate to better relations, especially after the bloody clash between pro- and anti-Yeltsin forces earlier this week.

Sergey Braguinskiy, associate professor of International Economics at Yokohama City University, said the president's visit is poorly timed.

"I don't think Yeltsin understands the feelings of Japanese people," Braguinskiy said. "He canceled visits when he didn't have to, and now he's trying to come when he doesn't have to."

Effects of Yeltsin Visit on Oil Business

OW0810090293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0804 GMT
8 Oct 93

["News focus" by Keiko Tatsuta: "Yeltsin's Visit Has Little Impact on Oil Projects"—third in a series on Russian President Yeltsin's visit to Japan]

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Businesses have little hope that Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan will rapidly revive oil and natural gas development projects off Sakhalin Island.

"I don't think (Yeltsin's) visit itself would accelerate our negotiations," said Masami Naruse, assistant manager at the Corporate Communications Division of Mitsui and Co. Ltd.

Mitsui, a giant trading house, takes part in an international consortium which has continued negotiations with Russia to develop two oil and gas fields—Piltun-Astohskoye and Lunskeye—off Sakhalin.

With formal instruction by Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to proceed with negotiations from September through November, the Mitsui Group, including Marathon Oil Co. of the United States, and British Royal Dutch Shell, will start regular discussions this month on terms and conditions of a product sharing contract, according to Naruse.

The group held a meeting in late September with a new Russian negotiating team headed by Vice Fuel and Energy Minister An.V. Shatalov to work out a negotiation schedule, he said. The group hopes to come to a general agreement within this year, Naruse said. Working-level negotiations will continue regardless of political developments in Moscow.

At the final stage, however, political confusion, if any, could be a stumbling block because the contract is subject to parliamentary approval, he told KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

After two abortive official visits to Tokyo, Yeltsin is determined to make a third try, which Japanese business executives say may make a psychologically favorable impression on the Japanese people and businesses.

"Another postponement could have a minus effect on national sentiment," said a source related to another oil and gas development project off Sakhalin undertaken by a semipublic Japanese corporation Sakhalin Oil Development Cooperation Co. (SODECO). "In this sense, his visit may be anyhow positive to Japanese investment (in Russia)."

The source said that he has no idea whether Yeltsin's visit will affect SODECO's negotiations with the Russian Government.

Since energy development is always one of the important economic issues between Japan and Russia, the source speculated, a summit meeting between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Yeltsin will probably take up the issue, which may have a positive impact on resumed talks on the long-delayed project.

SODECO resumed negotiations with Russia in Moscow in early October after a lapse of a decade. Despite Yeltsin's military crushing of the conservative parliamentary opposition, the first meeting with the Shatalov-headed Russian team took place as planned.

"Political turmoil is something beyond our control," said the source, speaking on condition of anonymity. "It has nothing to do with the present negotiations. The Russian side has need to continue these talks... There is no particular influence."

Analysts familiar with Russo-Japanese affairs are keeping a close eye on developments during Yeltsin's upcoming visit to Tokyo, which is expected to cover the controversial issue of four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido.

Mitsui's Naruse said there may be indirect and positive effects on Japanese-Russian projects, depending on Russia's response.

The source involved in the SODECO project said, however, the territorial dispute would not have any significant impact on ongoing projects like SODECO's, although it is likely to affect new projects.

Japan has refrained from providing the former Soviet Union and Russia with large-scale financial aid because of the unresolved territorial dispute.

The SODECO project, officially launched in 1975, is an exception, the source said, because Japan agreed in the 1975 basic agreement to grant to the Soviet Union bank credit worth 50 percent of the fund required to develop two oil and gas fields—Chaivo and Odoptu—in addition to credits to cover necessary costs of test drilling to explore mines.

Both Sakhalin oil and gas projects are aimed at starting full-scale commercial production in the early 21st century to supply the resources mainly to the Japanese market.

However, the Russian partner wishes to speed up oil exploitation as soon as possible to earn foreign currency, the source said, since Russia's oil output from existing fields has fallen.

Also, there are calls from residents in south Sakhalin for a supply of natural gas as clean energy instead of coals, the source said.

Naruse said that because oil can sell for spot transactions, Russia hopes to supply Sakhalin oil from 1995.

However, the Mitsui Group's project will enable Moscow to market such oil in 1997 or 1998 at the earliest, he said.

Expert on Trade With Russia Views Yeltsin Visit

OW0810091893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0754 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Tokyo next week will give Japan a good opportunity to normalize its dormant economic relations with Russia, a Japanese trading company executive says.

Susumu Yoshida, executive director of Nissho Iwai Corp. and an expert on Japanese-Russian trade, also said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE this week that a quick recovery in slow-moving Japanese-Russian trade is unlikely in the years ahead. Commenting on Yeltsin's scheduled talks with Japan's Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, Yoshida said Yeltsin is likely to seek to improve Russia's economic relations with Japan. This is because Japan is playing a major role in the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations in promoting western aid to Russia, he said.

Yoshida forecast that the summit will bring few short-term benefits to Japanese companies but will give Japan a good opportunity to normalize its economic relations with Russia in the long term.

Regarding bilateral trade, Yoshida said it is likely to remain flat this year at about 3.5 billion dollars, little changed from last year. Japanese companies are cautious about trade with Russia, in light of the country's political uncertainties, foreign-currency shortages and confused tax and distribution systems, Yoshida said. Recent trends in bilateral trade contracts show a quick recovery is unlikely in the coming years, he said.

Foreign Ministry Official on Territorial Issue

OW0810133993 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Remarks by Hiroshi Fukuda, deputy vice minister of foreign affairs, on the territorial issue with Russia; place and date not given; from the "NHK News 7" program—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted on possible outcome of Yeltsin-Hosokawa visit] [Fukuda] There was no progress on the northern territorial issue when Japan negotiated with the former Soviet Union. It was like throwing a ball at a brick wall. But since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russia has been saying it wants to solve the problem based on law and justice. Russia announced it respects both the position and obligations which were agreed upon by the former Soviet Union. I think Russia's stance remains unchanged.

Mondale, SDP Leader Discuss DPRK Nuclear Issue

OW0810105993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1007 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—U.S. Ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale said Friday [8 October] he would like to see North Korea, through dialogue with South Korea, wipe away international suspicion that it is developing nuclear weapons. Mondale made the remark when he called on Tomiichi Murayama, chairman of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), the largest force within the ruling coalition, at the party's headquarters.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has called on North Korea to accept inspections of two suspected nuclear facilities in Yongbyon, north of Pyongyang, which are said to be part of a covert nuclear weapons development program. In talks with the United States in July, North Korea agreed to resume negotiations with the IAEA, the Vienna-based international nuclear watchdog, on allowing inspections access to the sites. The former U.S. vice president and senator also told Murayama he wants to help promote U.S. relations with Japan, an SDP official said.

Touching on the recent meeting between U.S. President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa in New York, Mondale said it was good for the two young leaders to have developed friendly ties, the official said.

Murayama reportedly hoped his party will go ahead with its foreign policies while giving top priority to ties with the U.S. The ambassador said it was necessary for Japanese leaders to visit the U.S. and vice versa, the official said.

Mondale, who was U.S. vice president during the 1977-1981 administration of Jimmy Carter, took up his post in late September, replacing Michael Armacost.

KYODO Cites Espy Comments on Upcoming Visit

OW0610235693 Tokyo KYODO in English 2316 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Washington, Oct. 6 KYODO—Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy indicated Wednesday he has no plans to wage a high-pressure campaign to force the Japanese to open up their rice market during his trip to Japan next week. Espy said the issue of Japanese rice imports will not be "the central focus" of his visit but he will be ready to discuss the opening of the Japanese rice market if Tokyo so wishes.

"I am there to discuss what they want to discuss, and we don't have any imposing agenda," he told reporters. Espy will be in Japan, on his first visit to the country, from October 10 to 13 for a trip which he said will be part business and part sightseeing.

"I am going there first of all as the secretary of agriculture but secondly as a tourist," he said.

While Espy planned the trip well before Japan's announcement last week to import rice to make up for a sharp shortfall in the domestic harvest this year, Tokyo is wary that the U.S. may use the visit to press Japan to open up its rice market once and for all.

Espy said he plans to meet with Japanese Agriculture Minister Eijiro Hata during his stay in Tokyo but he has no idea what exactly they will be talking about beyond an outstanding dispute on apple trade.

"If they want to bring up the question of rice, I am able to discuss that as well, but that's not the central focus of my visit there," he said.

While saying he expects to discuss the export of U.S. apples to Japan, Espy indicated that the discussions are not likely to be acrimonious because "we've had some movement there lately."

The Japanese Agriculture Ministry has said Japan will allow U.S.-grown apples into the country beginning from the 1994 crop, provided U.S. farmers can meet Japanese hygiene standards.

Commenting on Japan's decision to import 200,000 tons of rice as an initial measure to cover an expected one million ton shortfall in rice supply over the next year, Espy said the U.S. must not dictate how much Japan should buy from American farmers.

David Graves, president of the U.S. Rice Millers Association, told reporters Tuesday that Japan must buy a significant amount of rice from the United States and said a "token amount" of a few thousand tons will not be acceptable.

"Any rhetoric like that tends to inflame situations and I don't want to be part of that," Espy said of Graves' remarks.

Espy said Japan should offer to open up its rice market in order to encourage a successful conclusion of the Uruguay round global trade talks, but acknowledged the political sensitivities of the rice issue in Japan.

"When it comes to rice, I do appreciate the difficulty and the cultural impact that this subject brings," he said.

Espy, however, assured Japanese consumers that they can count on American supplies if the Japanese Government changes its mind and opens up the Japanese rice market.

"We grow pretty high-quality rice, and with compatible taste and comparable standards," Espy said.

Japan bans rice imports on the grounds of food security. Japanese officials say the recent decision to import rice is merely an "emergency" measure to fill a temporary shortfall in domestic supply.

Export-Import Bank Extends Loan to Vietnam

OW0810025793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0228 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—The Export-Import Bank of Japan on Tuesday [5 October] extended 22.5 million dollars in short-term bridge loan to Vietnam to help the country pay its debt to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), officials said Friday. The officials said the short-term loan was repaid by Vietnam the next day using the proceed of new loans by the IMF. The short-term loan was part of an 85 million dollar cofinancing package led by France to help Vietnam pay its unpaid debt that amounted to 140 million dollars, they said. It was the second bridge loan by the Ex-Im Bank, following one to Peru earlier in 1993, officials said.

MITI Minister Leaves for ASEAN Meeting, PRC

OW0810135793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1343 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Minister of International Trade and Industry Hiroshi Kumagai left Tokyo on Friday [8 October] evening for Singapore to attend a meeting with economic ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). After meeting the ASEAN ministers, Kumagai will visit Beijing on Sunday to meet high-ranking officials there, ministry officials said. The minister is scheduled to come home Monday.

Botswana's Masire at Africa Development Meeting

MB0710055793 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1910 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] The co-chairman of the Global Coalition for Africa, the president, Sir Ketumile Masire, has expressed Africa's appreciation to development partners who spoke of the vital need to reduce debts, especially for the poorest of African countries. He said this in Tokyo, Japan, today at the end of the international conference on African development. Sir Ketumile stated that African countries did not come to Tokyo looking for magic solutions to Africa's development problems. He said Africans looked forward to a strengthened African-Asian cooperation. He said the Tokyo Declaration left no doubt that Africa was still on the world agenda of international cooperation. Sir Ketumile further said the declaration would become an important instrument for guiding Africa's cooperation with its development partners in the years ahead.

Masire Urges Investment

MB0710174493 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1110 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] The president, Sir Ketumile Masire, has asked Japanese businessmen to seriously consider opening businesses in Botswana. Sir Ketumile made the appeal

during a meeting with a team of officials from the Electronics Industries Association of Japan in Tokyo today.

He told them that Botswana is engaged in an ambitious education program to produce people who can easily adapt to the demands of new industries. He said apart from enjoying peace and stability, Botswana is an ideal center for industries because it happens to be at the center of southern Africa. Sir Ketumile told the Japanese businessmen that one other thing good about investing in Botswana is that its economy is growing fast with very satisfactory foreign reserves. He said his government was now engaged in a program to diversify its economy away from mineral resources which face an uncertain future. The president said the private sector has an important role to play in this program of diversification. He said interested companies can either start businesses on their own or in partnership with local companies.

The leader of the Japanese team, Mr. Dadayi Suzuki, thanked the president for the briefing and assured him that arrangements would be made to consider the offer in the near future.

Government To Send Emergency Food to Uganda

OW0810011493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0052 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Japan will provide emergency food aid to Uganda to help cope with the deteriorating food conditions there following a large influx of refugees from neighboring Sudan, the Foreign Ministry said Friday [8 October]. Japan will extend the aid, comprising 600,000 meals made up of hardtack biscuits, through the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) in response to a request by the Ugandan Government, the ministry said. The government will also disburse 41.5 million yen to use for transporting the hardtack, it said. There are 200,000 Sudanese refugees in Uganda, more than half of whom have arrived since August because of the intensifying civil war in Sudan, Foreign Ministry officials said. The food situation is deteriorating in Uganda because of the war, while droughts, AIDS, and malnutrition are also adding to the nation's misery, the officials said.

Taiwan Opposition Chairman on Enhancing Ties

OW0710105393 Taipei CNA in English 0751 GMT 7 Oct 93

[By Mike Chang and Y.C. Tsai]

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 (CNA)—Hsu Hsin-liang, chairman of Taiwan's opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), Wednesday [6 October] called on Japan to overhaul its policy toward Taiwan. Speaking at a dinner party at the Capital Tokyu Hotel, Hsu said the Japanese Government should recognize Taiwan as a sovereign country separate from Mainland China and also enhance bilateral ties.

Relations between Taiwan and Japan have never been based on international reality, he pointed out, adding the Tokyo government supported Taipei's claim of representation over the entire China mainland before diplomatic ties between the two countries were suspended in 1972 and thereafter Japan recognized Beijing, who claims authority over Taiwan. Both policies were two extremes of unreality, he noted.

As the new world order is in the offing, he pointed out, Japan will play a more important role in the international community and Taiwan is also entitled to a say in international matters. Hsu forecast that while the fate of Mainland China's market economy is still unclear, future ties across the Taiwan Strait will greatly impact the Asia-Pacific region. The relationship between Taiwan and Mainland China should develop on a reciprocal basis and should not become a burden to the Asia-Pacific development, he stressed. The DPP chairman arrived in Tokyo Wednesday for a three-day visit.

Hosokawa Resolved To Implement Political Reform

OW0810131493 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's response to a question by Hiroshi Kikugami of the Japan Communist Party at today's upper house Budget Committee session; from the "NHK News 7" program]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Kikugami] You said the goal of political reform is to strengthen and concentrate political power by changing the political system, including the electoral system. Is this what you said?

[Hosokawa] It will be difficult to conduct state affairs or have a strong government unless the people can clearly express their choices on policy matters and on political power. The idea of a new electoral system combining single-seat constituencies and proportional representation has arisen as an agreement to concentrate public opinion and reflects public opinion in politics.

New Bidding System for 5 Public Projects

OW0810062093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0556 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—The government has decided to apply new conditional bidding guidelines to public works projects awarded by five quasi-governmental construction supervision bodies, Construction Minister Kozo Igarashi said Friday [8 October].

The five public corporations affiliated with the ministry are Japan Highway Public Corp., Tokyo Expressway Public Corp., Hanshin Superhighway Corp., Honshu-Shikoku Bridge Authority as well as Housing and Urban Development Corp.

The ministry will authorize about 60 to 70 construction companies to bid for 12 public works projects—each worth more than 3 billion yen—such as a project to extend a highway in Yamagata Prefecture, ministry officials said.

Earlier in September, the ministry introduced the new conditional bidding guidelines in selecting construction firms qualified to participate in bidding for public projects in place of the designated bidding system. Under the new system, 13 projects—each worth more than 1 billion yen—such as a project to build an overhead bridge in Shizuoka Prefecture are up for grabs by about 30 contractors recognized by the ministry as “A-class” contractors, they said.

The new system allows participation in bidding by contractors whose technical capabilities and past business records of completing public projects were examined and recognized as qualifying them to join the bidding. The new system was introduced after the designated bidding system—under which the authorities name contractors qualified to join bidding—came under international criticism. The designated bidding was criticized for allegedly shutting out foreign contractors from the Japanese market. The officials said the new system would place curbs on the scope of arbitrariness in selecting the contractors qualified to join the bidding in comparison with the designated bidding system. They say the new system would ensure the transparency in the process of bidding.

MITI Warns Utilities on Political Donations

OW0810040693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0315 GMT
8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai indirectly urged power companies on Friday [8 October] to refrain from donating huge amounts of advertising money to political parties. Kumagai said at a news conference after a regular cabinet meeting, “although this is not a matter in which the administration intervenes, this kind of thing should be done within social common sense.”

The minister said he received a report from the electric power industry that it contributed 1 billion yen to the then-governing Liberal Democratic Party as advertising expenditures in fiscal 1992.

“They (power companies) are quasi-public service corporations and therefore should act with sensible judgment, absorbing various opinions and criticism,” Kumagai said. Regarding similar news about three major city gas suppliers, Kumagai said, “although I heard the gas industry completely denied (the reports), I want to investigate the matter because some papers carry fresh news about it.”

Industry Official Admits Donations to LDP

OW0510133093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—A senior official of the electric utility industry admitted Tuesday [5 October] that power companies donated 1 billion yen to the former ruling party in fiscal 1992. Toshiyuki Kondo, vice chairman of the Federation of Electric Power Companies, told reporters the federation contributed the fund to the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as advertising expenditures. He said the federation also contributed 750 million yen to the then-governing party both in fiscal 1990 and 1991.

Kondo's remarks confirmed reports in two major national dailies Tuesday that Japan's nine major electric power companies and three principal city gas suppliers apparently resumed donations to the LDP.

The papers, ASAHI SHIMBUN and MAINICHI SHIMBUN, said the companies suspended donations to the party in 1974 at the height of public criticism of political contributions by big businesses. The papers said the resumption of donations by the utilities became known from a list of contributions prepared by the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

The list, a copy of which was obtained by the two papers, showed that donations arranged by Keidanren totaled 11,975 million yen in 1992, the papers said.

Koshiro Aida, executive director of the Japan Gas Association, denied that the association has resumed donations to the LDP.

“Our investigations showed that neither the association nor three major city gas suppliers, Tokyo, Osaka and Toho Gas Companies, have donated funds to the LDP even in the form of advertising fees,” Aida told reporters.

LDP Reportedly Received ‘Fees’ From Gas Industry

OW0810112493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1048 GMT
8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—The Japanese gas industry paid about 2 billion yen in advertising fees to the former ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) from fiscal 1980 to fiscal 1992 via a business organization, a senior official of the organization said Friday [8 October].

Ryuko Wada, secretary general of the Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs, told a news conference the money paid by the Japan Gas Association was channeled to the party through the institute. In fiscal 1992, which ended in March 1993, the institute paid 230 million yen for ads in LDP publications, Wada said, adding all of the money came from the membership fees paid to the institute by the gas association. He denied, however, that

the gas association contributed the money as political donations to the party, which was ousted from power after failing to clinch a majority in a general election in August.

The institute is a public relations organ of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), one of Japan's most influential business organizations.

Kunio Anzai, president of Tokyo Gas Co., refuted the allegations, saying the company has never asked the institute to pay advertising fees to LDP publications.

Wada said the institute received 270 million yen from the gas association as membership fees in fiscal 1992 and spent 230 million yen to put ads in the party's publications on 10 occasions. The association paid 50 million yen to the institute for the first time in 1980 on condition that the fund would be spent as advertising expenditures to be paid to the party, Wada said.

Anzai, however, insisted that the association has contributed funds to the institute as costs of advertising for energy-related problems.

Wada said the institute has given high credits to the party's publications as public relations media, particularly in local districts.

Koshiro Goda, managing director of the association, told reporters earlier Friday the association has paid an annual membership fee of 273 million yen to the institute. But, he said, the association will reduce or stop the payments to the institute because the money may be recognized as a political donation.

Gas and electric power industries announced a decision to suspend political donations in 1974 after they came under public criticism over their close ties with the ruling party.

SDP Approves Overseas Dispatch of SDF Planes

OW0810114493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1126 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—A top leader of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), the largest party of the seven-party coalition government, Friday [8 October] for the first time voiced support for the tabling of a bill to allow the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to use planes to help Japanese in danger overseas.

"(The government) has no alternative but to (dispatch SDF planes overseas) in view of its trained personnel and organized power," said the leader, speaking on condition of anonymity. He added it is natural for the government to make efforts to rescue Japanese people trapped in conflict-torn countries. However, he also referred to measures to prevent the SDF from deviating from either the spirit or letter of the country's war-renouncing constitution, saying the party is studying what can be done within the limits of the constitution.

As for precautionary measures, the party is hastily drafting a plan to designate the kinds of SDF planes to be dispatched, as well as the weapons which may be carried, and to establish a command system based on civilian control, party officials said.

The SDP will give its conclusions on the issue within the context of revision of the defense law, the officials said. The party has so far refused to back revision of the law, which it has said would open the way for the dispatch of SDF troops overseas.

The other six governing parties have told the SDP they will revise the bill and clarify the government's stance so as to dissipate the SDP's concern that it could open the way for the dispatching of SDF forces overseas. The opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has already submitted such a bill to the House of Representatives.

The lower house voted on a similar bill, aimed at allowing the use of SDF planes to rescue Japanese citizens caught up in dangerous situations overseas, in the last ordinary Diet session. That bill had the backing of Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), then in opposition but now included in the coalition government.

However, the bill died without being enacted when the lower house was dissolved in June. The SDP opposed the bill at that time, saying restrictions were needed on the type of aircraft to be used and the equipment given to personnel.

Government Denies Cabinet Split on SDF Status

OW0810094893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0936 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura on Friday [8 October] refuted charges that the cabinet of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa is split over the constitutionality of the Japanese military.

"Even if a state minister denies the constitutionality of the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] as a politician or a party member, that would not amount to a split within the cabinet... As long as the minister is determined to obey the cabinet's policy line in his or her capacity as a state minister," Takemura said. He was apparently referring to a July 29 agreement among the seven parties comprising the coalition government that committed the coalition partners to a continuation of conservative governments' security and defense policies.

Takemura made the statement at the outset of a meeting of the House of Councillors Budget Committee. Members of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) have been demanding a clarification of recent remarks by five of six socialist cabinet ministers who denied the SDF's constitutionality.

LDP legislators cited as the basis for their charges Article 66 of the constitution, which holds the cabinet "collectively responsible to the Diet" in the exercise of executive power, including the public expression of constitutional interpretations.

Successive LDP governments have upheld an interpretation that the constitution authorizes the existence of the SDF, as long as it sticks to its mission of defending the home country in times of military assault by foreign powers.

The SDP [Social Democratic Party], which was in opposition until the August ouster of the LDP from power, has insisted that the SDF, with its current level of military capability and equipment, has already overstepped the scope of defensive capability allowed by the constitution.

Meanwhile, Sadao Yamahana, one of the six SDP ministers, retracted his earlier parliamentary statement that the Japanese wartime Imperial Army killed some 20 million soldiers and civilians of Asian and allied power nations. The retraction followed a temporary boycott by some LDP legislators of the day's committee deliberations over Yamahana's remark and his subsequent refusal to withdraw it. The legislators were angered by Yamahana's refusal of a demand by Tadashi Itagaki, LDP legislator and son of wartime Army Minister Seishiro Itagaki who was hanged in 1948 during the allied war crimes tribunal.

Itagaki told the session on Thursday, "I'm not convinced by your figures, as the grounds for them are ambiguous."

Yamahana told the day's session, "Although my statement that the total casualties from the Pacific War came to some 20 million is fact, I've decided to retract it."

Yamahana told the upper house session on September 24, "We cannot deny that the war was a war of aggression in view of the fact that Japanese militarism victimized some 20 million soldiers, employees of the military, women and children from both Asian nations and the allied powers."

Hata Says Rice Imports Not Tied to GATT

*OW0810044193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0427 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Japan's Farm Minister reiterated Friday [8 October] that the nation's emergency rice imports have nothing to do with the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. Eijiro Hata, minister for agriculture, forestry and fisheries, said at a press conference, "I have to make doubly sure and tell (U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy) that Japan's rice imports are emergency measures and have no relation to the Uruguay Round." Hata was talking about a meeting slated for next Monday with Espy, in which the U.S. side may take up Tokyo's makeshift rice imports in connection with the global trade talks.

Espy is scheduled to arrive in Japan on Sunday for a three-day stay before visiting Hong Kong and China. Asked about the round's prospects, Hata denied a possibility the trade negotiations may shrink to a small package excluding farm issues.

First Imports To Arrive 3 Nov

*OW0810044093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0421 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—The first shipment of rice Japan is importing to make up for the poor harvest this year is expected to arrive in Japan from Thailand on November 3, government officials said Friday [8 October]. The officials said a cargo ship is scheduled to arrive in Bangkok on October 14 to load 7,000 tons of rice for processing, the first Japanese rice imports in nine years. It is scheduled to leave Bangkok for Japan on October 25. They said, however, the arrival in Japan may be delayed by unforeseen loading and quarantine problems.

Japan plans to receive 22 more rice shipments from Thailand, totaling 126,000 tons, by December 15.

If the imports go smoothly, the Food Agency will start selling the Thai rice in November to processed food makers, which will use it to make rice cakes and other food for domestic consumption, the officials said.

The agency also plans to import 60,000 tons of processed rice this year and more than one million tons of rice next year, including 700,000 tons for everyday consumption from the United States and Australia, they said. The poor harvest was caused by an unseasonably cool summer weather and typhoon damage.

Prices May Rise by 10 Percent

*OW0710125493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1213 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Retail prices of rice may rise by about 10 percent because of the supply shortage stemming from this year's poor harvest, a top Farm Ministry official said Thursday [7 October].

Akio Kyoya, vice minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, made the comments at a press conference in reference to the retail prices of rice that producers sell through a government-supervised market mechanism. Hikes in rice prices determined through bidding held by an industry organization are limited to 7 percent above the weighted average of successful tender prices over the past three years.

Kyoya said despite the limit, the price hike may reach about 10 percent when shipping and other costs are included. He said the ministry will not allow any illegal sales of rice or move to raise prices, and will strengthen market monitoring.

Major Wholesaler To Raise Prices*OW0610131793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1244 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Yamatane Corp., a major rice wholesaler, said Wednesday [6 October] it plans to raise wholesale rice prices by a maximum of 10 percent around mid-October or early November. The Tokyo-based company said it has already started negotiations on price markups with major customers, such as restaurant and fast food chain operators.

Bunji Nakamura, president of the company, said supplies of low-priced rice have dropped because of a poor harvest and the company has to purchase high-priced rice from growers.

Rice dealers said prices of rice on the free market have soared against the background of a poor harvest this year, boosting the price of a leading brand to 30,000 yen per 60 kilograms. They said the government's decision to import rice on an emergency basis to make up for a supply shortage has had little impact on the market. The government keeps rice under tight control and imposes a virtual ban on imports. It purchases rice from growers at higher prices than it sells to consumers but allows a certain portion of the crops to be sold on the free market.

Government officials said the volume of rice sold on the market accounted for about one quarter of the total harvest in 1992.

Government Rice Supplies To Drop*OW0710143493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1421 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Market supplies of "seifu-mai" or rice bought and sold by the government during the period from November to February will drop to about 300,000 tons compared with 541,000 tons a year earlier, government sources said Thursday [7 October]. Regional government officials concerned with rice supplies will be notified of the forecast at a meeting next Tuesday, the sources at the Food Agency added. The shortfall in rice supplies is the result of a poor harvest this year stemming from a cool summer with many typhoons.

The government plans to draw on its rice stockpiles to supply the 300,000 tons for the period, but from March will import rice from overseas to make further supplies, they said.

Japan's annual rice consumption is estimated at 10 million tons, of which about 1 million tons are directly purchased from rice growers and distributed by the government as "seifu-mai." About 6 million tons are distributed through a market of government-approved channels as "jishu-ryutsu-mai."

Government To Buy High-Priced Rice*OW0810065993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0618 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—The Food Agency plans to purchase high-priced rice normally sold outside the government-controlled system and mix it with rice the government sells to wholesalers in a move to ease this year's rice shortage, agency officials said Friday [8 October]. Newly harvested rice is divided into five grades according to quality, with the top two grades sold at higher prices on the free market and the rest purchased by the government and sold to consumers at lower prices. The officials said the move is intended to ensure stable supplies to consumers.

Panel Urges Government To Remove Trade Barriers*OW0810092093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0810 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Japan should remove its invisible trade barriers for its own sake, as well as to help harmonize its own economy with the international economy, a government advisory panel said in a report released Friday [8 October]. Ten study groups of the quality of life committee under the Economic Council, an advisory body to the prime minister, have produced reports on the progress of the fiscal 1992-1996 plan to achieve a better quality of life for Japanese people.

A group on the current-account balance structure said there are still suspicions that considerable invisible trade barriers remain in Japanese markets, although visible import barriers for manufactured goods have fallen much lower. The removal of import barriers will enable Japanese industries to be more efficient and provide Japanese people with various high-quality goods at lower prices, the group said. This is in line with the government's quality of life goals under its five-year plan, it said.

It also called for a review of business practices and government regulations to change an economic system which features import barriers, which is said to be one of the causes of price gaps between Japan and overseas.

Another group asked the government for deregulations, saying scrapping or easing of regulations will provide consumers and creative companies with various options and new business chances through reduction of price differences and diversified services.

Therefore, in addition to drastic decontrol of economic regulations, Japan should also review social regulations such as safety standards, since these regulations might have lost their original purpose and held prices higher, it said.

Eight other groups drew up reports on industrial structure, working environment, longevity and the aging of society, financial and capital markets, the food supply

system, social asset improvement, effective land use, and broader-based economic areas.

The quality of life committee will hold meetings in October and November based on these 10 reports to submit a combined report to the economic council by early December, officials of the Economic Planning Agency said.

MITI Asks Traders To Buy More Foreign Chips

OW0810100493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0950 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) on Friday [8 October] asked semiconductor users and trading houses to buy more foreign products with a view to increasing foreign share in the Japanese microchip market, ministry officials said. MITI made the request to about 180 domestic companies at a conference on market access expansion for foreign chips, the officials said. Under the bilateral chip trade agreement reached with the United States in August 1991, Japan promised to make efforts to improve access to the Japanese market for foreign-made semiconductors.

A U.S. calculation formula showed, however, that the foreign share has recently fallen both in the January-March and April-June periods on a quarter-on-quarter basis. The U.S. formula excluded "captive" microchips sold by U.S. producers to their Japanese units and "branded" chips made by Japanese companies but sold in Japan under the brand names of foreign firms.

Osamu Watanabe, director general of MITI's Machinery and Information Industries Bureau, said at the fifth annual conference, "we have to understand U.S. hopes (to maintain an average 20 percent share) and make every effort to this end," the officials said.

At the gathering, chip user groups unveiled their action programs for expanding imports of foreign semiconductors during fiscal 1993, which ends next March 31, while some companies introduced success stories, they said.

Fujitsu, Hyundai To Cooperate in DRAM Manufacture

OW0710040193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0259 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Fujitsu Ltd. of Japan and a chip-making member of the Hyundai business group of South Korea will collaborate in the manufacture of four-megabit and 16-megabit Dynamic Random Access Memories (DRAMs), Fujitsu officials said Thursday. Fujitsu and Hyundai Electronics Industries Co. also agreed to explore the potential for a tie-up in the development of future generations of DRAMs, the officials said. The partnership may include joint production of other types of semiconductor device, they said. Hyundai Electronics Industries, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Hyundai business conglomerate, is one of the

world's leading manufacturers of semiconductor products, supplying four-megabit and 16-megabit DRAMs to major customers throughout the world.

Fujii Reiterates Opposition to Income Tax Cut

OW0810024193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0214 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii on Friday [8 October] reiterated his opposition to an income tax cut as an emergency measure to stimulate the flagging economy.

"I want to say once again that I'm opposed to an income tax cut as a short-term economic measure," Fujii said. An emergency tax cut, which would require the issuance of deficit-covering bonds to finance it, would cause the nation to lose more than it would benefit, he said.

Fujii added that it goes against the efforts of Group of Seven (G-7) nations to attain "sound budgets," in an apparent rebuttal of calls from abroad apparently encouraging Japan to institute such a tax cut as a stimulative measure. The government is facing strong calls at home from business leaders, labor unions and some members of both the ruling coalition and opposition parties for an income tax cut to rev up the economy.

Meanwhile, answering a question in the Diet on Thursday, Fujii denied any implication in remarks he made Wednesday that he was easing his opposition to an income tax cut as "collateralized" bridge bonds are different from "untreated" deficit-covering bonds.

The government is said to be considering using bridge bonds to finance an income tax cut before raising other taxes. But Fujii has rejected such methods, saying bridge bonds are the same as deficit-covering bonds.

Meanwhile, Fujii described as a "little pessimistic" the revised outlook on Japan's economy by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), while agreeing with the body's citing of the yen's rise and bad weather for its revision.

A senior official of the Paris-based OECD of 24 industrial nations told a major Japanese economic daily that the institute has trimmed its outlook on Japan to real growth of zero from its July forecast of 1 percent.

Fujii also flatly rejected a redenomination of the yen as a measure to stimulate the economy. He said it would place a heavier burden on companies which are restructuring, and is "unacceptable."

Union Leader Calls for Income Tax Cut

OW0710023393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0205 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—The leader of Japan's largest labor confederation urged the government Thursday to implement income tax cuts of more than 5 trillion yen to stimulate the sluggish economy. Akira

Yamagishi, president of the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo), made the call in an opening speech to a convention of the organization, saying the government should issue bridging bonds to finance the tax cut. Yamagishi said the government should take measures to secure funds to offset the bridging government bonds. He did not specify what the measures should be. Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa hinted Tuesday that his administration may raise the rate of the consumption tax from the current 3 percent in the future to offset an income tax cut.

Rengo Endorses Yamagishi as President

*OW0810093593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0854 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Japan's largest trade union organization, Rengo, on Friday [8 October] approved a third two-year term of office for President Akira Yamagishi without calling a vote by delegates to its national convention. The endorsement of the 64-year-old labor leader came on the second day of the two-day convention of the eight million-member Japanese trade union confederation.

Earlier, Yamagishi was expected to contest an election with two other rivals—Jinnosuke Ashida, chief of the Japan Federation of Textile, Garment, Chemical, Mercantile and Allied Industry Workers' Unions, and Etsuya Washio, chief of the Japanese Federation of Iron and Steel Workers' Unions. The selection committee, however, persuaded the other two to drop out of the race, Rengo officials said.

A Rengo official said many committee members commended Yamagishi for his reported role in helping to sweep the coalition government of Prime minister Morihiro Hosokawa to power in place of the Liberal Democratic Party. Following their decisions not to challenge Yamagishi, Ashida was named as an acting president, while Washio assumed the post of general secretary. Yamagishi took office in 1989 when Rengo was inaugurated.

The convention also adopted resolutions opposing layoffs and demanding the implementation of an income tax cut of 5 trillion yen. The convention urged the government to drop its plan to raise from 60 to 65 the age at which the government is legally required to start paying pension to the elderly. However, Yamagishi came under criticism for banning union members' support for candidates affiliated with the left wing of the Social Democratic Party [SDP] in the July 18 House of Representatives election.

In the July vote, major unions under the umbrella of Rengo withdrew support for SDP left-wingers and threw their support behind some candidates from three new conservative parties—Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), the Japan New Party and Sakigake (Harbinger).

The decision to withdraw backing for some SDP members reportedly helped deal a sharp setback to the party, whose parliamentary strength was almost halved to 70 in the lower chamber.

Political analysts said Yamagishi may face some difficulties in running the union in view of some intra-union dissent to his approach to a proposed reconfiguration of ties of the nation's political parties.

Yamagishi called on seven coalition partners in the government to field a single candidate in a proposed single-seat constituency system, predicting that the next general election under the new electoral system combining single-seat constituencies and proportional representation will be held within a year.

The trade union leader made the call at a press conference following the end of convention.

The seven parties are the Social Democratic Party (SDP), Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), Komeito, Japan New Party (JNP), Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), Sakigake (Harbinger) and United Social Democratic Party.

The coalition government has submitted to the Diet a package of political reform bills, which include electoral reform bills to replace the current multiseat constituency system.

Hosokawa has indicated that he will step down if the package fails to be enacted by the end of the year.

Rengo adopted resolutions Thursday vowing to push a proposal to form a "two-party system" by promoting a reconfiguration of ties among the nation's political parties.

The resolutions also indicated Rengo's readiness to withdraw its long-time support for the SDP and the DSP and throw its weight the JNP, Shinseito and Sakigake.

Bank of Japan Chief on Benefits of Strong Yen

*OW0610072793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0700 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday [6 October] that a strong yen against the U.S. dollar is in the long run having positive effects on the Japanese economy, reducing inflationary pressure as a result of lower import prices. In the short term, however, Mieno said the yen's sharp gain will discourage the export-dependent economy. The central banker made his comments at a press conference shortly after the U.S. dollar ended interbank trading at 105.63 yen, up 0.33 yen in Tokyo. Mieno went on to say that the economy still has a potential for growth despite no signs of recovery in the private sector.

Mieno: No Signs of Private-Demand Recovery

*OW0610082393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0802 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Bank of Japan [BOJ] Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday [6 October] Japanese private demand has shown no signs of recovery but noted that no fresh evidence has emerged to indicate that the economy will get worse. He repeated at a regular press conference that risks have increased of a new economic downturn with the high yen and bad summer weather, but said, "no fresh factors have emerged in the past two weeks" to indicate that such risks have further increased since he last met the press. The economy's growth potential has not greatly changed and companies are not likely to make drastic labor cutbacks as their ongoing employment adjustments reflect "medium- and long-term restructuring," Mieno said. He denied that a comment he made in parliament Tuesday was an endorsement of a high yen, saying he had responded to a direct question by pointing out the long-term benefits of a high yen, such as stabilizing domestic prices by making imported materials cheaper.

Clarifying his remarks in Tuesday's Diet questioning, Mieno repeated that the "deflation shock" of a high yen hurts exporters' profits.

There is no reason to consider denominating the Japanese currency, which has been touted as a way to stimulate the economy, he said. Such a measure would be too expensive for companies already trying to cut costs and would help only certain industries.

Mieno said the central bank will continue guiding market rates lower, but that market rates should be within an appropriate range of the official discount rate, which the bank of Japan cut last month to a record low 1.75 percent a year to spur the economy. He said he hopes increased lending from government-affiliated financial institutions will not impede private-sector lending activity. He rejected criticism that, given the low level of the discount rate and market rates, bank lending rates have not fallen enough.

Mieno repeated that the discount rate cut and the government's recent 6.2 trillion yen economic stimulus plan won praise at late September's meeting of finance leaders from seven industrial powers but that they made no requests or criticism of Japan.

The Group of Seven finance ministers and central bank chiefs all agreed on the importance of quickly concluding the current round of world trade talks and of striving for sustainable, inflation-free growth, he said. He repeated that they did not discuss exchange rates as such but reaffirmed an April statement that currency values should reflect economic fundamentals and that rapid changes are undesirable.

Life Insurers Plan To Trim Estimated Yield

*OW0510092593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Japanese life insurance firms plan to cut their estimated yield for fiscal 1994, starting next April 1, due to poor investment performance, industry sources said Tuesday [5 October]. Such a cut would lead to the second consecutive annual raise in insurance premiums. The sources said the estimated yield, the basis for calculating premiums for individual life insurance and annuity policies, is likely to be cut by 0.75 percentage point to an annual 4.0 percent. The cutback reflects the deteriorating climate of assets management, stemming from lower interest rates and the stock market slump, the sources said.

A 0.75 point cut in the yield, for example, would lead to a 1,000 yen rise in premiums each month on savings-type insurance such as endowment insurance or individual annuity, the sources said. Insurance sales personnel are resisting moves to cut the estimated yield, however, saying higher premiums would dampen insurance sales.

Last April, the life insurance companies cut their estimated yield by 0.75 percentage point from 5.5 percent and raised their premiums by up to 13 percent.

The insurance companies are having difficulty in increasing their loans to companies, which account for 30 to 40 percent of their assets, due to the business slowdown, the sources said.

The situation was aggravated by a fall in the long-term prime rate following a 0.75 point cut in the official discount rate to 1.75 percent by the bank of Japan on September 21.

Improvement of Investment Trust System Urged

*OW0510103793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0938 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—A securities industry panel called Tuesday [5 October] for improvement of the investment trust system to make it more attractive to individual investors. The body, composed of securities firms and related organizations, said in a report that the importance of investment trusts has been increasing as they provides more opportunity for individual investors. The overall balance of Japan's investment trusts, however, has been decreasing to a very low level, compared with the United States, it said.

To make investment trusts more attractive, the report proposes that the names of fund managers should be disclosed and they be paid a yearly salary according to their fund-operating skills. It also proposes that an objective evaluation agency be created so that investors

can obtain information on and compare various investment trust products. The body also said new investment trust products should be developed to meet diversified demands of investors.

Survey Shows More Small Firms Losing Money

*OW0510113693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1003 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Smaller companies posting losses outnumbered those that were reporting profits for the first time since the first oil shock in 1975, according to a survey released by a governmental financial institution Tuesday [5 October]. The Japan Finance Corporation for Small Business said there were more companies that marked losses than profits in the three months preceding the middle of September, when the poll was conducted and before the Bank of Japan cut the official discount rate by 0.75 percentage point to an all-time low of 1.75 percent September 21.

The quarterly survey covers 708 companies, which are clients of the financial corporation. An index showing the balance between profitable and nonprofitable businesses was minus 2.0, falling on the negative side for the first time since October 1975. The survey also showed the ratio of companies with lower sales outpaced those boosting their turnover. The index stood at negative 22.9, worse than the 20.3 of October 1992 that was so far the worst in the current recession. An index showing the labor demand for small- and medium-sized manufacturers fell to minus 27.0, the worst index since the institution began including this indicator in 1977.

Planning Agency Switches to GDP Growth Measure

*OW0710111893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0819 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Japan will begin measuring economic growth by gross domestic product (GDP) rather than gross national product (GNP) to reflect real domestic activities, the Economic Planning Agency said Thursday [7 October]. The changeover will begin in December when the agency releases figures for the July-September quarter, it said. GDP excludes volatile net income from abroad from GNP or total output of goods and services. Agency officials said the agency will continue offering GNP as a reference. To prepare for the shift, the agency has been releasing both GNP and GDP since the October-December quarter of 1991.

The officials said volatile and swelling net income from abroad causes disparity between GNP and actual economic conditions, and GDP has become a more accurate figure reflecting real value. Japan is currently the only nation among leading industrial countries using GNP. The United States shifted to the GDP measure in 1991 and Germany followed in 1992.

In the latest reporting period of the April-June quarter, Japan's real GDP fell 0.4 percent from the previous three months, contracting at an annual pace of 1.6 percent. Real GNP shrank 0.5 percent or an annual 2.0 percent. In 1992, the nation's real GDP grew 0.5 percent and GNP rose 0.8 percent. The officials said it is still undecided whether the agency will use the GNP or GDP measure for the government's official outlook, which is now at a growth of 3.4 percent on a GNP basis for fiscal 1993 ending next March.

Business Leader Calls for Wage Freeze in 1994

*OW0710111793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0826 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—The President of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry called Thursday [7 October] for a wage freeze next spring to enable employers to overcome the economic slowdown. Kosaku Inaba told a news conference a freeze is more desirable than a wage cut proposed by some employers, which he said would be too severe.

Inaba said most employers have been overwhelmed by the psychological effect of the business slump, prompting them to carry out employment adjustments, adding it is necessary for them to make self-supporting efforts to overcome the situation. He reiterated his call for a major income tax cut ahead of raising the consumption tax rate, which stands at 3 percent.

Inaba expressed concern over a delay in public works projects resulting from bribery scandals involving leading construction companies and said he hopes investigations will be completed speedily to ease the impact on the economy.

Government Approves Civil Service Pay Raise

*OW0810020893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0130 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—The government decided Friday [8 October] to raise civil servants' wages this fiscal year by an average 1.92 percent, or 6,286 yen per month, retroactive to April. The wage hike, recommended by the National Personnel Authority, is the second lowest since the recommendation system for wage rises began in fiscal 1960 because of the economic slump, government officials said. The lowest is the 1.47 percent raise in fiscal 1987. The government also approved annual bonus payments equivalent to 5.3 months' salary for the fiscal year which ends next March 31. The bonus is down 0.15 percent from fiscal 1992, the first decline in 15 years.

Local Ministry Bureaus Report Economy Stagnant

*OW0610032493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0234 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Japan's economy is still stagnating with production activities continuing in the

doldrums, the Finance Ministry's local financial bureau chiefs reported Wednesday [6 October]. In a regular meeting, the heads of the 11 local bureaus, however, agreed it is unlikely that the economic situation will worsen further. They pinned their hopes on a likely boost from a series of government pump-priming measures, including the latest 6 trillion yen package announced in mid-September. The local bureau chiefs reported that a few economic sectors like housing and public works have been active and consumer spending has been showing signs of recovery in some areas. But production remains depressed across the board as the yen's sharp rise, and the cold and wet summer have delivered additional blows to the sector, they said.

Ex-Bureaucrat on Board of 1 in 4.4 Major Firms

*OW0610085993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—One in every 4.4 major Japanese companies has a former bureaucrat on its board, a private survey released Wednesday [6 October] showed, indicating the cozy ties between government ministries and businesses under their jurisdiction. Toyo Keizai Inc. said its survey of 2,175 companies found there are as many as 1,068 former bureaucrats on the boards 498 companies as of July 31. The survey was conducted on all companies listed on the nation's stock exchanges plus 47 unlisted companies including insurance firms.

Former Finance Ministry bureaucrats dominated the list of those who have become corporate board members with 188 on boards of directors mainly at banks, brokerages and insurance companies, the survey showed. Former bureaucrats at the Construction Ministry were the next most numerous with 174, most of them on the boards of construction companies. The findings point to the close ties between the ministry and the construction industry, currently in the headlines over a series of public works-related scandals.

Former bureaucrats at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] were the third-most numerous, followed by those from the National Tax Administration Agency.

Under law, central government officials are banned from finding jobs at companies for two years after retirement if they had a government post related to those companies over a five-year period before retirement. But the regulation has a loophole because it does not govern public corporations. Because of this, many former bureaucrats tend to become board members at public corporations before going to private companies.

About 30 percent of business executives who are former bureaucrats at the Finance Ministry and the Construction Ministry capitalize on the loophole. The figure is as high as about 40 percent for those who are former bureaucrats at MITI.

Police Find Links Between Yakuza, Thai Mafia

*OW0810111793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1041 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—The Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department has uncovered evidence of collusive relations between Japanese and Thai gangsters, police sources said Friday [8 October]. The sources said police investigators have uncovered information that members of a major Japanese organized crime syndicate and a Thai gangster organization have opened large-scale secret gambling venues in Tokyo catering to illegal Thai workers.

It was the first time for police to reveal they have solid evidence of long-suspected collaboration between the "yakuza" or Japanese gangsters and their counterparts from other countries. The sources said investigators confirmed the connection last September when they raided an illegal gambling venue in Tokyo's Toshima Ward and arrested a senior Japanese member of the yakuza group "Kyokuto-kai."

The investigators learned from him and other sources that the Japanese group was working together with a Thai underworld organization assuming the name of Pratunam, which is a district in Bangkok. Upon further investigation, the investigators learned that the Thai gangsters have set up gambling venues in some 10 different places in the Tokyo area, including the entertainment districts of Shinjuku and Ikebukuro. The sources said the gambling participants were primarily Thai women engaged in prostitution in Japan.

Industrial Machinery Orders Drop 6.2 Percent

*OW0510080893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0727 GMT
5 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Orders received by Japan's industrial machinery builders fell 6.2 percent in August from the same month last year to 423.88 billion yen because of sluggish domestic demand, the Japan Society of Industrial Machinery Manufacturers said Tuesday [5 October]. The figure was up 5.0 percent from July, however.

Domestic orders for industrial machinery plunged 12.1 percent from a year before and edged down 0.1 percent from July to 356.36 billion yen, the society said. Orders for boilers and prime movers, and transportation machinery, however, increased from July. Overseas orders jumped 44.8 percent from a year earlier and 43.2 percent from July to 67.52 billion yen. The total included orders for five plants worth a total of 37.24 billion yen. Orders from abroad for chemical machinery and metal-processing tools showed gains from the previous month, while orders for boilers and prime movers, and fans increased from year-earlier levels.

Export contracts for industrial machinery in August jumped 60 percent from the year-earlier level and 64.2 percent from July to 64.75 billion yen.

Car Sales Drop 3.9 Percent in Fiscal 1992*OW0610085693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0818 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Sales by 1,739 automobile dealers across Japan in fiscal 1992 dropped 3.9 percent from the year before to 14.82 trillion yen, the first year-on-year drop in 12 years, an industry association reported Wednesday [6 October]. The Japan Automobile Dealers Association said sales per dealer dropped 3.9 percent to 8.52 billion yen. Sales of new vehicles dropped 6.7 percent while those of used vehicles and parts dipped 0.2 percent and 0.8 percent respectively, it said. The association said its survey showed that 34.1 percent of the total posted pretax losses, compared with 33.6 percent for the previous year.

Combined pretax profits for the 1,739 dealers totaled 70.35 billion yen, down from 91.24 billion yen for fiscal 1991 and 159.77 billion yen for fiscal 1990, the association said.

Reflecting discounted sales due to rising competition, the ratio of profit to new car sales dropped to 11.5 percent from 11.7 percent for the previous year but that for the used car sector rose 2.1 percentage points to 11.6 percent due to higher prices, the association said.

The ratio of pretax profit to sales dipped 0.1 point to 0.5 percent, posting the third straight year-on-year fall, with pretax profit per dealer slumping 22.0 percent to 40.5 million yen, the association said. It said the profit decline was attributable largely to rising investment for renovation of sales outlets and personnel costs.

New Natural Gas Cars To Be Highway Tested*OW0710143993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1426 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Nagoya, Oct. 7 KYODO—Toho Gas Co. said Thursday [7 October] it obtained a government permission for road tests on new natural gas cars. Thirteen natural gas cars it developed mainly in cooperation of Toyota Motor Corp. won type certificates from Transport Minister Shigeru Ito, the Nagoya-based gas company said. The 13 cars, 10 Corolla station wagons and three Crown cars, will start undergoing road tests late in October, it said. Natural gas cars produce less pollution than standard cars in use today. The natural gas-fueled Crown car can drive up to 150 kilometers at one charge, and the Corolla station wagons up to 200 kilometers, company officials said. The officials said the company will file with the ministry later in the current fiscal year to seek type certificates for seven other natural gas cars.

North Korea**Pyongyang Radio Reports Official's UN Speech***SK0810110593 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Vice Foreign Minister Song Won-ho, who is heading our country's delegation to the UN General Assembly, made a speech at the 48th Assembly.

In his speech, he pointed out: Today the international society faces a common task to build an independent, peaceful and prosperous new world on our globe.

It is a common desire of the people of the world to build an independent new world free from various domination, subjugation, aggression and war. All countries and people should choose their own political, economic, and social systems based on sovereignty and on the right of self-determination. They should freely develop such systems.

Sovereignty is the life of each country and people and, at the same time, is the common life of mankind. Only when each nation firmly retains independence, can it safeguard national dignity and rights, maintain and consolidate sound international relations, realize genuine democratization of international society, and contribute to expediting independence in the entire world.

Without sovereignty, one cannot safeguard national independence and dignity nor can one achieve the nation's prosperity and development. Where sovereignty is trampled underfoot, one cannot evade the formation of relations of domination, subjugation, subordination, and impartiality.

This is a lesson taught to mankind by the 5,000 year-long history of the Korean people and by the present era about to turn into the 21st century amid a whirlwind of history.

The events that have taken place in recent years, in the course of the developing international situation and in the international arena, clearly prove once again the justness of our Republic's independent line and policy.

We regard independence as our life, and this idea is thoroughly consistent in our Republic's foreign and domestic policy and line.

Our country has been advancing along the road of socialism it chose under the banner of the chuche idea without running about in confusion and without undergoing any twists and turns, even under the rapidly changing, complicated situation. It is also constantly consolidating and developing external relations and contributing to the common cause of mankind. This is precisely because our people have firmly adhered to an independent and principled stand.

We have neither acted according to someone else's directive nor relied on other people but only maintained an independent position, principle, and consistency. We take great pride in this.

We have always adhered to an independent position, even in achieving the country's peace and its peaceful reunification. National reunification is the cause of realizing the nation's independence. The principle of national independence is the basic principle for reunification we cannot concede to anyone.

Without great unity of our country, we cannot think of the issue of achieving national reunification independently and peacefully. The great unity of the country is a basic precondition for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. It also constitutes the essential factor for reunification.

Proceeding from this, the government of our Republic consistently devoted everything to achieving national reunification with great unity based on the principle of national independence.

The entire course of efforts for national reunification and, in particular, the prevailing situation taught the lesson that the Korean people should advance along the road of reunifying the nation with great unity of the whole country based on the principle of independence.

Needless to say, there are differences in ideologies, ideas and systems within our nation. However, since we have common national features, formed and consolidated throughout a long history of 5,000 years, we can easily transcend such differences.

Our people are the homogeneous people rarely seen in the world. They are closely linked to one another with blood ties and all people in the North, the South and overseas are united with a common national desire for national reunification.

Our people cannot discriminate the North, the South and overseas, nor can we become intimate with outside forces by alienating fellow countrymen. We cannot be antagonistic against the same people nor can we stand in confrontation with each other by forgetting national justice.

In our country, with resumption of the North-South dialogue, the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression and cooperation and exchange between the North and the South and the joint declaration for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula were adopted and effectuated, thus bringing about an epoch-making progress in the dialogue. This is precisely intended for our country to promote reconciliation and unity by putting an end to antagonism and confrontation and to open the door of reunification by demolishing the barriers of division.

It is our nation's unanimous desire and common aspirations to achieve national reunification and realize prosperity and development of the reunified fatherland by

attaining unity, transcending everything, and by making characteristic contributions.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the president of the DPRK, wrote and announced the 10-point program of great unity of the whole country for the country's reunification, based on his comprehension of our people's demand, to bring to an end the history of division and confrontation and achieve national reunification.

This historic program concretely elucidated the issue of founding an independent, peaceful and nonaligned neutral state—a confederal state where the governments of two regions coexist and participate with equal footing—not leaning toward any big country. The program also expounded even the issue of protecting capitals and assets of individuals and organizations, as well as the joint interest with foreign capitals, not only for the pre-reunification period but also the post-reunification period.

The 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country, aimed at realizing national reunification based on the spirit of national independence, is a chapter for national unity and reunification, which comprehensively reflects the will and desire of the Korean nation and fully considers the current international situation. The 10-point program arouses, not only those who desire national reunification but also even those who fear or pay no attention to reunification, to the road of national unity and reunification. In addition, the 10-point program has firmly opened up a bright outlook that makes it possible to achieve the historic cause for national reunification in the nineties.

Even though stumbling blocks and difficulties are still in the way of reunification, the entire Korean people will surely realize national reunification by achieving great unity based on the love to the nation and the national independence spirit.

At present, easing tension and guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula are urgent issues that cannot be delayed any further. To alleviate tensions on the Korean peninsula and to achieve a durable peace there, it is imperative, first of all, to change the Korean Armistice Agreement to a peace agreement. In reality, the Korean Armistice Agreement is outdated. The armistice body [chongjon kigu] is, in fact, in a place of paralysis.

A series of complex and acute issues, including the nuclear issue, have arisen on the Korean peninsula. They still have not been resolved. This is because the past armistice system has been kept as it is.

Even though 40 years have passed, the armistice situation and armistice system of the fifties have remained as they are. This itself is abnormal.

Now, peace and stability are not guaranteed on the Korean peninsula. This has been attributed to the result

of our Republic Government's will and policy for peace. Only when the Armistice Agreement is replaced with a peace agreement can a series of issues, including the nuclear issue, be smoothly resolved. Only then a favorable phase to remove the hostile relations between the North and the South and peace and peaceful reunification in Korea can be created.

This notwithstanding, the United States has adhered to a minor issue, not paying attention to resolving the essential issue of guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula. This will only create a stumbling block to resolving the issue concerning Korea.

The United States should pay priority attention to changing the Armistice Agreement to a peace agreement and should pay its due role in terminating the Armistice Agreement and in establishing a new peace guarantee system. I think that now is the right time for the United Nations to make an innovative, bold decision, to dissolve the United National Command in South Korea and to change the Armistice Agreement to a peace agreement in accordance with the 30th UN General Assembly session's Resolution 3390b.

In this connection, we hold that negotiations should be initiated among countries concerned at the earliest possible date to create a new peace-guaranteeing device, which will replace the current Armistice Agreement system.

To guarantee a durable peace and stability on the Korean peninsula, it is also imperative to realize denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free and peaceful zone is the consistent policy of our Republic's Government. As we have already declared several times, neither do we possess nuclear weapons, nor do we have the intention, capability, or need to develop them.

If impartiality is guaranteed, we will not object to the nuclear inspections. The nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula is a political issue which, as the DPRK-U.S. talks show, should be resolved between us and the United States.

Last June in New York, the DPRK and the United States of America adopted and announced a joint statement which is related with strategic issues related basically in resolving the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula. Clearly stipulated in the joint statement are the issue of not using armed forces, including nuclear weapons; of not threatening the other party through armed forces; of guaranteeing denuclearization, peace, and stability of the Korean peninsula; of guaranteeing full and impartial implementation of the safeguard accords; of mutually respecting the independence of the other party; of not interfering in the internal affairs of the other; and of supporting the peaceful reunification of Korea.

At the second round of the DPRK-U.S. talks held in Geneva, we put forward the proposal that the existing

graphite moderated reactors and associated nuclear facilities be replaced with light-water moderated reactors. By so doing, we more clearly showed the transparency and truth of our Republic's non-nuclear policy.

If all promises—including the issue of guaranteeing the nonuse of nuclear weapons, of stop threatening the other party through armed forces, and of the peaceful use of nuclear energy through a light-water moderated reactor system, which have been already agreed upon between us and the United States—are put into practice, a prospect for basically and eventually resolving the nuclear issue will be opened up on the Korean peninsula, a base for improving the DPRK-U.S. relations will be founded, and a momentous advance in guaranteeing the peace and stability of Asia and the world will be made.

A meaningful advance, though it is a beginning, has been made in an attempt to resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula. This is because the parties concerned chose the way of negotiations. This precisely proves that the only way for resolving the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula lies in dialogue and negotiations. This nonetheless, the pressure brought on by forces, which have not yet replaced their old way of thinking, is appearing again at a time when talks are being held between the DPRK and the United States to resolve the nuclear issue and at a time when negotiations are being pushed ahead between us and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. This is regrettable.

Our nuclear issue was presented at the 37th IAEA general meeting, which was recently held, and a so-called resolution was adopted on it. This cannot be construed as nothing other than a product of a political scheme to prevent the nuclear issue from being resolved through negotiations and to stifle [apsal] our Republic by all means.

We sternly reject [paegyok] the adoption of a resolution at the IAEA general meeting, regarding this as an outrageous infringement upon our Republic's sovereignty and as a part of the insidious political offensive aimed at putting international pressure on us.

The course of the recent IAEA general meeting clearly showed that the measures regarding our issue taken by the IAEA Secretariat and Board of Governors in the past were totally unjustifiable and that the IAEA has lost its face and has no more pretexts for mediating our nuclear issue.

In view of its origin and its political attribute, the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula can only be resolved through talks between the United States and us. Accordingly, the DPRK and the United States have already held the second round of talks, and the world knows this.

Nevertheless, the Japanese prime minister and the South Korean foreign minister went so far as to talk from this sacred UN rostrum about the implementation of the

Nuclear Safeguards Accord and the international concern about nuclear weapons development, and preposterously laid the blame on our door. This is indeed absurd.

Japan should not talk about the fictitious nuclear weapons development or something, but should stop maneuvering to become a military power and to arm itself with nuclear weapons, which it has accelerated with the story as a pretext.

The South Korean authorities should stop nuclear war exercises with the outside forces against fellow countrymen and should not seek a so-called international cooperative system.

Our country will perform its duty as a member of the international community for a fair and early solution of the nuclear issue.

I expect that all the UN member nations will encourage our position for resolving the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula through dialogue and negotiations and that they will actively cooperate in taking practical measures for the implementation of what was agreed upon at the DPRK-U.S. talks.

Our Republic's government's peace-loving position for making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free peace zone has never changed. We will make all sincere efforts in the future to remove the root of nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula and to resolve the nuclear issue smoothly.

Today, the world situation and international relations require that we liquidate all remains of the Cold War era, which have been denied by history, as soon as possible and that we deter various attempts at hindering the advance of history.

Realizing the global arms reduction on the earth and wiping out weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, is the most urgent issue in liquidating the remains of the Cold War era and achieving world peace and security.

All means of threatening the life of mankind and destroying social assets should be removed. Some countries possessing nuclear weapons have recently decided temporary suspension of nuclear testing. This is regarded as progress, in light of the view that nuclear tests are the most dangerous nuclear armament race among the world powers.

We insist that epochal measures should be taken to suspend nuclear tests forever and to abolish the vast nuclear weapons stockpiled on earth and various types of nuclear weapons deployed in different countries. In particular, nuclear weapons deployed on and around the Korean peninsula should be abolished. Unless this is realized, international discussions on the nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear arms reduction have no meaning.

Military blocs, military bases in foreign countries, and foreign armed forces are results of the Cold War policy, and they are factors that constantly threaten world peace and security. Today when the old Cold War structure has collapsed, there is no reason for the existence of military blocs and means of aggression and war.

Military blocs, which were created under the cloak of the so-called balance of strength in the Cold War era, should be dissolved. Establishing a country's military bases and keeping its troops stationed in a foreign country is an infringement upon the foreign country's sovereignty and security of its territories. This also contradicts today's trend heading toward the independence of each country.

We insist that all foreign military bases in many areas of the world should be abolished and that foreign troops should be withdrawn to their own countries.

One of the important issues for defending world peace and security is to settle conflicts among countries and nations peacefully.

National sovereignty is now being infringed in many areas in the world, and regional, religious, and ethnic conflicts are ceaseless. In some regions, these conflicts develop into wars. As a result, peace and security are disturbed in some regions, and many countries suffer serious calamities.

Conflicts among countries should be settled through negotiations between the parties concerned in conformity with both sides' interests and the cause of world peace. With the unfair international economic order as it is, we can neither remove the gap that is ever increasing between rich and advanced countries and poor and developing countries, nor can we save the people of developing countries from starvation, diseases, and calamities. Advanced countries should be responsible for this and should not do things that hinder the developing countries' economic development.

This was particularly emphasized in the final document of the 10th summit of nonaligned countries. Constructive measures should be worked out for the resumption of dialogue between developed countries and developing countries, for the innovation of unfair international economic relations, and for the establishment of a new fair international economic system.

At the same time, developing countries should realize South-South cooperation in the fields of foodstuffs, agriculture, and public health, which have an essential significance in eliminating economic poverty, and should take practical steps for the establishment of the South-South economic order.

The UN missions and responsibility toward mankind are becoming heavier with each passing day and the world is watching the UN's role and activities. The United Nations must be democratized in conformity with the demand of the prevailing situation and aspirations of its

member states under the principle of ensuring independence, equality, and fairness.

It is important to enable all member states to fully exercise their independent rights regardless of the size and power of the nations and states and of the gap between the rich and the poor.

All countries and states are equal members of the international society and have equal rights. There can be large and small countries in the world but there cannot be countries that are on top or at the bottom. There can be developed states and less developed states but there cannot be a state that dominates another or one being dominated by another.

We are opposed to any privilege in international relations. We call for mutual respect, noninterference in domestic affairs, the principle of equality and mutual benefits, and friendship and cooperation based on this principle.

Some forces in the international arena, infringing upon the principle of fairness and international justice, are scheming to put unjust pressure on the countries that hurt their feelings by labelling them as a state where human rights are violated, as a terrorist state, and so forth, by severely slandering and defaming them, while overlooking other countries in a series of issues including the nuclear problem, the human rights issue, and the terrorist issue. This is an anachronistic act.

Unfair and unjust acts such as the interference in other countries' domestic affairs by certain countries by means of force and tyranny and applying double standards in international relations should not be allowed any longer.

The United Nations must reform and improve its structure. The UN's reform and improvement of its structure are an important step for more actively coping with changed realities and new challenges.

We should pay priority attention to the formation of the UN Security Council. We think it is necessary to review and readjust its structure.

Since the nonaligned and developing countries hold the absolute majority seats in the United Nations, they should exercise their right to speak in accordance with their positions. They should not be excluded in resolving important international problems.

I hold that the Third World countries should be deservedly included in the UN Security Council as permanent members corresponding to the number of member states participating in the UN arena.

At present, Japan is inciting the public opinion in an effort to become a permanent member of the Security Council. Japan appears to have no sense of responsibility for the aggression and the war criminal acts it committed during World War II. Japan has not liquidated the past. Under this circumstance, talking about its qualification for permanent membership is absurd.

When the United Nations fulfills its responsibility and role from the position of fairness, it can assume its original position as an international organization which safeguards world peace according to international justice. It can thus repay the expectations of its member states.

The destiny of each country and state is closely linked to the common destiny of mankind. By struggling in unity, the world's people who safeguard independence should consolidate national independence. They should achieve the nation's independent development and, thus, actively contribute to solidifying peace and security in the world.

We actively support the Cambodian people's struggle to promote national reconciliation and unity and to rebuild the nation. We support the people in the Asian countries in their struggle for peace, freedom, establishment of neutral zones in Southeast Asia and for common economic prosperity of this region. We also support the Asian people's struggle to build an independent, peaceful, and prosperous new Asia.

We extend firm solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people who are making efforts for a fair and permanent resolution of the Middle East problems including the Palestinian issue, with the struggle of all the Arab people, of all African people to realize the nation's independent development by overcoming social and economic difficulties, of the Cuban people to defend sovereignty and dignity of the country as well as socialist gains, and with the struggle of the Latin American people for peace and prosperity.

The Government and people of the DPRK will extend active support and firm solidarity to all the people in the world who are struggling to build a new society against various forms of domination and subjugation and to expedite the common cause of mankind.

The ideal that our Republic consistently pursued in international relations is independence, peace, and friendship. It corresponds to the ideal put forward by international society. Our Republic will, as in the past, firmly adhere to independence and will further strengthen ties and cooperation with the UN member states. It will remain faithful to the common cause of mankind to achieve the independence in the entire world.

The DPRK delegation hopes that this assembly will successfully discuss the issues put forward as agenda items through the joint effort of the delegations of many countries and will thus contribute to building a free and peaceful new world.

Unattributed Talk Observes PRC National Day

*SK0810094693 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0838 GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Unattributed Talk: "The Chinese People's National Day"]

[Text] The 44th anniversary of the founding of the PRC is marked today. The Chinese people are celebrating this significant national day. The Chinese people founded the PRC on 1 October 1949 through their protracted, arduous struggle.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song stated in his congratulatory message addressed to PRC party and state leaders: The founding of the PRC is the precious gains that the Chinese people attained through their protracted, arduous struggle. It was also a historic event that opened the road for creating a new life in China.

The founding of the PRC became a great event in the Chinese people's political life, and since then China has entered the road of a new development.

China covers the wide continent in the east and central parts of Asia and approximately 3,000 islands, and occupies an area of 9,596,000 square kilometers. Three-fifths of the Chinese territory covers mountains and highlands, and its terrain is very complex and varied. China has vast forests, underground resources, a long history and rich culture.

The Chinese people were forced to suffer feudal oppression, interference and aggression from outside forces for a long time. This brought innumerable misfortunes and sufferings to the Chinese people. The Chinese people rose up in the struggle for freedom and liberation and bravely fought against reactionary military castes and outside forces of aggression while surmounting all sorts of difficulties. Thus, they achieved victory in the revolution. After that, a new socialist China of prosperity and development was born on the wide land of China.

Since the founding of the Republic, the Chinese people have defended the gains of the revolution attained with blood under the leadership of the CPC and advanced along the road they chose.

The century-long backwardness and poverty, which dominated China for a long time, have been eliminated and China changed completely. Since the third plenary session of the 11th CPC Central Committee, a new change has been effected in the Chinese people's living. Social and political stability has been achieved, and the people's welfare has improved.

Today, the Chinese people are struggling to build a peculiar socialism suitable to the realities of their country. The Chinese people are performing the task set forth by the 14th Congress of the CPC and making efforts to reunify the whole country under the principle of one state and two systems. China is carrying out a peace-loving foreign policy and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation with other countries.

Today, our people are achieving great results in all fields of socialist construction by highly upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and under the wise leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. Socialism of our own style centered on the popular

masses does not waver in the slightest by the imperialists' pressure and intervention maneuvers. It is being all the more consolidated and developed with each passing day.

A new prospect is being opened in the struggle to reunify the fatherland independently and peacefully under the banner of the 10-point program of great national unity. The world's broad social circles that treasure justice and peace today are sending us active support and solidarity in our just cause.

The DPRK and China are neighboring countries separated by a river. The friendly ties between the people of the two countries has been deeply rooted over a long period of time. In the past, the people of the two countries fought both in China and in the DPRK opposing the common enemy. In this process they shared their fate and overcame arduous trials together.

The people of the two countries deepened significance of comradely relations and supported and encouraged each other's cause. Through this process the DPRK-China friendship became all the more consolidated and developed.

The DPRK-China friendship, established and fostered by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the respected Comrades Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai, is continuing to develop amid great interest and efforts by the leaders [yongdojadul] of the two countries.

Today's international situation is very complicated. The imperialists' aggression and maneuvers of intervention to dominate the world is becoming all the more plain. The imperialists are using every means and methods to isolate, suffocate, and oppress [apsal] socialist countries politically, economically, and militarily. They are also strengthening ideological and cultural infiltration toward socialist countries and are maneuvering frantically to collapse socialist countries from within.

This kind of situation today demands that to adhere to the socialist cause, socialist countries must take concerted action and strengthen unity and cooperation. Developing friendly and cooperative relations between the people of the DPRK and China under this kind of situation will not only be of interest to the people of the two countries but will also be beneficial to safeguarding peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

Our people believe that through the efforts of the people of the two countries, the DPRK-China friendship, with a long historical tradition, will continue to be strengthened and developed unchangeably. We hope that the Chinese people will achieve results in constructing socialism in conformity with their country's situation.

Japanese Hear UN Report on Discrimination*SK0510231293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503
GMT 5 Oct 93*

["Fact-Finding Team on Forcible Drafting of Koreans Discusses Future Action Program"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Tokyo, October 3 (KNS-KCNA)—A meeting of representatives from different parts of Japan was held on Sept. 22 and 23 to discuss the future action program of the fact-finding team on forcible drafting of Koreans.

The meeting heard a report on activities at the UN sub-commission on prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities.

Noting that the U.N. resolution was of historical significance, Sumiko Shimizu, Japan social-democratic member of the House of Councillors, urged that the Japanese Government should sincerely accept it to probe the truth and make clear the past history.

Hong Sang-chin, director of the Secretariat of the team, in his report on activities at the UN said [word indistinct] against Japan had been raised at the UN on 71 occasions from last year, and the resolution means clearly denying Japan's argument that the "problems before the emergence of the UN must not be discussed" and "the problem had already been settled through the 'agreement between the two countries'."

A new action plan of the team was discussed at the meeting.

First of all, they discussed questions of actively conducting investigation and gathering of materials regarding victims and assailants to probe the truth on the basis of testimony cards and of stepping up studies to delve into breaches of law.

It was agreed upon to probe the problem for compensation and, at the same time, continue activities in the UN and conduct work of furnishing materials and information to a special rapporteur.

They discussed preserving historical materials and materials related to forcible drafting, building a memorial to the victims, publish "records of investigation into forcible drafting" (12 volumes) and vigorously conducting propaganda activities to bring the truth home to the broad Japanese people, and confirmed the future action program.

Further on Compensation for 'Comfort Women'*SK0710121593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—The fact-finding team of the International Commission of Jurists [ICJ] in its report demanded that the Japanese Government take a series of measures for an early compensation, as most of the women taken away as sexual slaves of the Japanese Army in the past are above eighty.

This is said in an article headlined "ICJ Tells About Distress of 'Comfort Women'" which was carried in newsletter No.54, the periodical of the IJC.

The article recalled that the ICJ fact-finding team, in the course of investigation in the Philippines, Japan and Korea, came to the conclusion that women were actually kidnapped or taken away by cheating.

It says:

The ICJ fact-finding team holds that the Japanese Government must be held wholly responsible for the establishment, maintenance and management of the "comfort houses".

The ICJ calls upon the Japanese Government to totally open it to the public, compensate the victims and negotiate with relevant organisations measures for maximum compensations as regards the problem of women who died on the spot or after their return home.

Russian Paper on Kim Il-song's 'Benevolent Politics'*SK0810003593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2215
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—The Russian paper PATRIOT No. 38 carried an article headlined "Everything for the People, on Benevolent Politics of President Kim Il-song".

Noting that the benevolent politics of President Kim Il-song is a politics of love for the people, the paper in the article says he always regards the people as the most precious beings, holds them dearest and loves them and makes everything serve them.

The profound view of the president is that even gold should not be spared for the people, the paper notes, citing as an instance the fact that in a difficult period when steel was urgently needed right after the liberation of the country from the Japanese colonialists, the president made sure that an oven of first-stage steel processing at the Songjin steel works which had claimed many lives of smelters was blown up.

Saying the president's love for the people is clearly expressed in his relations with revolutionary comrades in particular, the paper writes that he has taken utmost care of his comrades under difficult and dangerous circumstances.

Under the solicitude of the president for the revolutionary soldiers who dedicated their lives to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the fatherland liberation war, the socialist revolution and socialist construction, monuments were erected at native places of the fallen fighters, and cities, rural villages, factories and schools were named after revolutionaries, the paper says.

Benevolent politics of President Kim Il-song—this is a politics of trust in the people, the paper notes, and continues:

During the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle he burnt a package of documents on "Minsaengdan" members whom the leftist opportunists did not believe in, branding them as affiliates of the organisation of the enemy's stooges in a far-fetched way.

When some narrow-minded people tried to unconditionally reject nationalists because of difference in isms after the liberation of the country, the president stood them up as patriotic forerunners.

He took upon himself the destiny of even those who come from the propertied class if they struggled for the people.

Such a society where the people are united as firm as a rock, holding President Kim Il-song in high esteem as their real father and living a harmonious life as one big family, has been built in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Foreign Embassy Officials Help in Rice Harvesting

*SK0810141193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1048
GMT 8 Oct 93*

[All names as received]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—Embassy officials of different countries in Pyongyang are helping the farmers of the cooperative farms that have friendly relations with their countries in rice harvesting which is now in full swing.

Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega and his embassy officials went to the Korea-Cuba Friendship Hwasong Cooperative Farm in Pyongyang, and Russian Ambassador to Korea Yuriy Fadeyev and his embassy officials to the Korea-Russia Friendship Kochang Cooperative Farm in Nampo Municipality.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Korea Duong Chinh Thuc and his embassy officials helped in rice harvesting at the Korea-Vietnam Friendship Chamjin Cooperative Farm in Nampo Municipality, Charge d'affaires ad Interim of the Pakistani Embassy Shafgat Ali Cheema and his embassy officials at the Korea-Pakistan Friendship Taesong Cooperative Farm in Pyongyang, and Mongolian Ambassador to Korea Sh. Gungaadorj and his embassy officials at the Korea-Mongolia Friendship Chongbang Cooperative Farm in Sariwon City, North Hwanghae Province.

Foreign Leaders Send Greetings to Kim Il-song

*SK0810050893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424
GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received messages of greetings from El Hadj Omar Bongo, President of the Gabonese Republic, and Michal Kovac, President of the Slovak Republic, on the 45th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

They in the messages extended warm congratulations to President Kim Il-song on the national day and expressed the belief that friendly relations between Korea and their countries would favourably develop.

The great leader President Kim Il-song also received a message of greetings from Ali Yata, general secretary of the Moroccan Progress and Socialism Party, on the 45th founding anniversary of the Republic.

Malaysian Government Delegation Received

*SK0710122593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song Thursday received the visiting Malaysian Government delegation headed by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar bin Baba.

Present on the occasion were Vice-premier Hong Song-nam, Chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission Yi Song-tae, Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il and Abdul Latif bin Fwong, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Malaysian Embassy in Pyongyang.

President Kim Il-song had a warm and friendly talk with the guests.

He gave a luncheon for the guests.

Kim Il-song Receives Gift

*SK0710124493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a gift from deputy prime minister of Malaysia Abdul Ghafar bin Baba on a visit to Korea.

The gift was conveyed to Vice-premier Hong Song-nam by the deputy prime minister.

Kim Chong-il Receives Gift

*SK0710130693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia Abdul Ghafar bin Baba on a visit to Korea.

The gift was conveyed to Vice-premier Hong Song-nam by the deputy prime minister.

Delegation Meets Indonesian State Leaders

*SK0410015393 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 2 Oct 93*

[Text] The DPRK Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) delegation led by Chairman Yang Hyong-sop paid a courtesy call on Wahonno, chairman of the People's Representation Council of Indonesia, and conversed with him on 25 September.

At the meeting, the chairman of the People's Representation Council stressed: The Indonesian people admire the great results being achieved by the DPRK people under the wise leadership of His Excellency President Kim Il-song and His Excellency Kim Chong-il and support the DPRK people's struggle for their country's independent and peaceful reunification.

The delegation participated in a meeting with members of Indonesia's Committee for Parliamentary Cooperation on the same day. At the meeting, the chairman of the Committee for Parliamentary Cooperation said: Members of the People's Representation Council of Indonesia have deep interest in the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and hope that Korea will be reunified in the near future.

The SPA chairman, head of the delegation, met with Indonesia's coordinating minister for Political Affairs and Security on 27 September.

On 27 and 28 September, the delegation visited Bandung and Yogyakarta to see the Bandung Conference Hall and many other places.

While the delegation stayed in Indonesia, the chairman of the People's Representation Council of Indonesia arranged a banquet for the delegation. Vice chairmen of the People's Representation Council of Indonesia, chairman of the Committee for Parliamentary Cooperation, and Indonesian functionaries of sectors concerned participated in the banquet. Members of the SPA delegation, our country's ambassador to Indonesia, and the embassy staff were invited.

Participants in the banquet toasted to the long life and good health of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, and Indonesian President Suharto.

Suharto Receives Delegation

*SK0110112893 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 29 Sep 93*

[Text] Indonesian President Suharto on 27 September received the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly delegation led by Chairman Yang Hyong-sop. At the meeting, the head of the delegation conveyed greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader

Comrade Kim Chong-il to President Suharto. President Suharto expressed deep gratitude for this and asked the head of the delegation to convey his warm greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The president stressed that Indonesia and the DPRK are closely cooperating with each other as members of the nonalignment. He expressed gratification with the developing relations between the two countries and said that he hopes that the reunification of Korea will be realized as soon as possible.

Also on hand at the meeting were (Wahodo), chairman of the House of Representatives of Indonesia, and the DPRK ambassador to Indonesia.

Meeting Marks Ugandan National Day

*SK0710053193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0413
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—A meeting commemorating the 31st national day of the Republic of Uganda was held here Wednesday.

Present at the meeting were Yi Chin-su, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea and chairman of the Korea-Uganda Friendship Association, and other officials concerned and working people in the city.

A speech was made and a message of greetings to the president of the Republic of Uganda adopted at the meeting.

President Sends Message

*SK0810052693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441
GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on October 6 sent a message of greetings to Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the national day of the country.

President Kim Il-song said in the message that the Ugandan people are actively striving today to achieve the national unity and stability of the country and develop the national economy under the wise guidance of their president.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will grow stronger and develop, the message wished the president and the Ugandan people achievements in the work for the prosperity of the country.

Friendship Gathering Held on Yemeni Revolution Day

*SK0810051793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439
GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—A friendship gathering took place Thursday at the Korea-Yemen friendship Pyongyang Children's Knitwear Mill on the occasion of the Revolution Day of Yemen.

Invited there were the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Yemeni Embassy here and embassy officials.

Officials concerned and officials of the mill were present.

The participants went round production processes of the mill and saw an art performance of its art circle members.

Daily Dedicates Article to Cuban Revolutionary

*SK0810054793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454
GMT 8 Oct 93*

["Blood Shed by Che Guevara Will Not be in Vain"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today says the blood shed by Che Guevara, an indomitable revolutionary and a true internationalist fighter produced by the Latin American people, will never be in vain. In an article dedicated to the 26th anniversary of his death, the author recalls the contributions made by Che Guevara to the victory of the Cuban revolution, the building of socialist Cuba and support to the Latin American people's struggle. It says:

The life of Che Guevara was not long, but the revolutionary exploits performed by him are recorded in the revolutionary history of Cuba and other Latin American countries and inspire the peoples of those countries to a new struggle.

The desire of Che Guevara in his lifetime has been brought into a reality on the soil of Cuba.

The Cuban people have registered brilliant achievements in the revolution and construction under the leadership of the Communist Party and the revolutionary Government of Cuba headed by Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz.

They are accelerating socialist construction, tiding over obstacles and difficulties by themselves in the "special period of the peace time".

The world revolutionary people are encouraged by the Cuban people who are staunchly advancing along the road of socialism, not wavering in face of the imperialists' uninterrupted anti-socialist moves and anti-Cuban offensives.

Peruvian Groups Hold DCRK Support Meeting

*SK0810051593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430
GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—A meeting of the month of support to the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo [DCRK] was held in Peru on September 30 under the cosponsorship of the Peru-Korea Institute of Culture and Friendship, the Peruvian Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea and the left Revolutionary Union of Peru.

Angel Castro Lavarello, president of the national executive committee of the left Revolutionary Union of Peru, in his speech said that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in April put forward the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for building an independent, peaceful and neutral reunified state through a great unity of the whole nation on the basis of patriotism and spirit of national independence. "We fully support all the reunification proposals including the three principles and the five-point policy of national reunification, the proposal for founding the DCRK and the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song," he declared.

"We," he said, "bitterly denounce the anti-national, anti-reunification and anti-peace moves of the South Korean authorities and demand that they demolish the concrete wall, abolish the 'National Security Law' and ensure democratic freedom and right to the people."

A letter to President Kim Il-song was adopted at the meeting.

Anniversary of Ties With Guinea Marked

*SK0810135193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003
GMT 8 Oct 93*

["35th Anniversary of Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between DPRK and Guinea Observed"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—Papers here today observe the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Guinea.

A by-lined article of NODONG SINMUN says that since the establishment of the diplomatic relations the peoples of Korea and Guinea have constantly supported and cooperated with each other in the building of a new society.

The Korean people, it declares, sincerely rejoice over the achievements of the Guinean people in the building of a new life and extend support and solidarity to their cause of justice.

It fully conforms to the interests of the two peoples and is useful to the building of a new society to further develop the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Guinea.

The Korean people who value their friendly and cooperative relations with the Guinean people will make active efforts in the future, too, to further strengthen and develop them.

The author of an article of MINJU CHOSON notes that the Korean people wish the Guinean people greater successes in their future work for the stability and prosperity of the country.

Indians Hold Seminar on 'Revolutionary Fighter'

*SK0610043893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425
GMT 6 Oct 93*

["Comrade Kim Chong-suk Was an Indomitable Communist Revolutionary Fighter"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—A seminar on the revolutionary activities of Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, took place some time ago at the chuche idea study society of women in Delhi, India.

The secretary general of the society delivered a report under the title "Comrade Kim Chong-suk was an Indomitable Communist Revolutionary Fighter", and president T.B. Mukherjee and secretary General Govind Narain Srivastava of the Asian Regional Institute of the Chuche Idea, and others took the floor at the seminar.

The reporter and speakers said Kim Chong-suk was an indomitable revolutionary fighter and anti-Japanese heroine who regarded it as her noblest revolutionary obligation to remain loyal to His Excellency President Kim Il-song, the great leader of the revolution, and defended him politically and ideologically and with her life till the last moments of her life since she embarked on the road of revolution in her early years.

Noting that although Comrade Kim Chong-suk, a woman communist revolutionary fighter, passed away, the revolutionary cause of chuche started by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is successfully being carried forward and developed under the wise guidance of the dear leader His Excellency Kim Chong-il, they said the Korean-style socialism, an ideal society of mankind desired by her, would make a long drive.

Republic of Macedonia's Independence Recognized

*SK0510115093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a note to the Ministry of External Relations of the Republic of Macedonia.

The note says the DPRK Government has decided to recognize the independence of the Republic of Macedonia and develop friendly and cooperative relations with the country in accordance with the idea of independence, peace and friendship in the future.

Cultural Exchange Agreement Signed With Nigeria

*SK0310084293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0803
GMT 3 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 3 (KCNA)—A 1993-1996 Plan of Cultural and Educational Cooperation and Exchange between the governments of the DPRK and the Federal Republic of Nigeria was signed in Abuja on September 27.

The plan was signed by Korean Ambassador to Nigeria An Kyong-hyon, and the secretary in charge of Information and Culture of Nigeria.

Envoy Presents Credentials to Ghanaian Official

*SK0710130893 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 3 Oct 93*

[Text] Yi Chae-song, our country's newly appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, presented credentials to Ghanaian Vice President Kow Nkensen Arkaah on 28 September. At the meeting, the ambassador conveyed to Vice President Kow Nkensen Arkaah the greetings of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il addressed to Ghanaian President Jerry John Rawlings.

The vice president expressed deep gratitude to this and asked the ambassador to convey President Jerry John Rawlings' sincere greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The vice president hoped that friendly and cooperative relations between Ghana and the DPRK would continue to expand and develop as in the past. He also hoped that Korea would be peacefully reunified in conformity with the Korean people's interest.

Premier Sends Greetings to Cambodian Leaders

*SK0110065993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0404
GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—Premier of the Administration Council, Kang Song-san, sent a message of greetings to Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen upon the adoption of a new Constitution in Cambodia and their appointment as first and second prime ministers of the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

"I express the belief that the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia, true to the noble intention of esteemed His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk, will

make great progress in the work for peace and stability, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country," said the message.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries would further strengthen and develop, the message wished them new success in their future work.

Kim Il-song Greet Cypriot Counterpart

*SK0110065093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0359
GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings to Cyprian President Giavkos Kleridhis Thursday on the 33rd anniversary of the independence of Cyprus.

In the message he wished the president and people of Cyprus success in the efforts for the reunification and prosperity of the country and expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries would continue to develop.

Foreign Visitors Arrive in Pyongyang 1 Oct

*SK0210061593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0422
GMT 2 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 2 (KCNA)—Secretary of the Executive Committee of the African Party for the Solidarity and Justice of Mali Issaka Bagayogo, member of the National Executive Bureau and Secretary of the Organization for People's Democracy-Labour Movement of Burkina Faso Ilboudo Alain Richard, Counsellor of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Rally of Cameroon Oyono Dieudonne and member of the Dominican Committee for Support to Korea's Reunification Eddy Fernandez arrived here Friday by air.

Group Urges Abolition of National Security Law

*SK0510231493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—The Council of Family Movement for Realizing Democracy of South Korea (Mingahyop) recently decided to fight for the abolition of the "National Security Law" and the release of the prisoners of conscience at its local branches all over South Korea, according to a report.

In accordance with this decision, the Kwangju-South Cholla Provincial Branch of Mingahyop held a press conference in Kwangju late in September to demand the release of all the long-term prisoners and prisoners of conscience.

Noting that many prisoners of conscience who had been thrown into prison by the military fascist dictatorial "regimes" are still kept behind bars, it declared at the

press conference that this makes it difficult to distinguish the present "regime" from the "Fifth and Sixth Republics".

It said it would continue to fight for the abolition of the "NSL" and the release of the prisoners of conscience.

Hanminjon Members Visit Party History Museum

*SK0810050993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426
GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—Chief Cho Il-min and members of the Pyongyang mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) visited the party founding history Museum Thursday on the 48th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

They went round the historical mementos and materials on display, hearing an explanation about the fact that immediately after the liberation of the country, the great leader President Kim Il-song wisely organized and led the struggle for founding a party, building the country and an army.

At the end of the visit Chief Cho Il-min made an entry into the visitor's book.

KCNA Reports Increased Iron, Steel Production

*SK0810140293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023
GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—Working people of the metal industrial sector are greeting their holiday (October 9) with increased production of iron and steel.

According to data available at the production guidance bureau of the Ministry of Metal Industry, the iron and steel output in the first five days of this month was up 4.6 percent from the corresponding time of the previous month.

Over 400,000 more tons of iron and steel have been produced in the first nine months of this year than in the like period last year.

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex increased the iron and steel output in the previous month 8 percent as compared with the same period last year. Entering this month, upwards of 1,500 to 2,000 more tons of iron and steel has been produced daily than in the previous month.

Production at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex during the past nine months increased by more than 60,000 tons as against the like period last year.

The Songjin and Chollima Steel Complexes are also producing more rolled steel than planned through vigorous drive for increased production.

Officials Attend Medicine Factory Opening*SK0810142493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1054
GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—The Aekuk Preventive Medicine Factory has made its appearance in Tongil Street of Pyongyang.

A ceremony for its completion was held Thursday.

Present there were Vice-president Pak Song-chol, Vice-premier Chang Chol, Vice-minister of Public Health Kim Yong-ik and a delegation of Korean Women Traders and Industrialists in Japan and members of delegations of the General Association of Korean residents in Japan (Chongnyon) staying in the socialist homeland.

The completion of the modernly equipped Aekuk Preventive Medicine Factory will help further promote the health of our people and implement the preventive medical policy of our party more effectively.

The Ministry of Public Health arranged a party in the evening upon its completion.

KCNA Features Kyongsong Ceramic Corporation*SK0710152893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—Kyongsong county situated on the east coast of the northern part of Korea is a centre of the ceramic industry of the country.

It is the seat of Kyongsong ceramic corporation.

Since the corporation was founded in 1985 by incorporating four ceramic factories, a coal mine, an ore mine, a factory of fireproof materials and a ceramic institute, the July 6 ceramic factory with a total floor space of more than 24,000 square metres was commissioned, making it possible to largely and comprehensively turn out quality pottery and porcelain products including those for daily use and construction and industrial ceramic articles.

The share of ceramic industry in the county's total industrial output value is nearly 80 percent.

The porcelain articles for domestic use and porcelain crafts produced there are popular on home and foreign markets. Porcelain crafts representing Koryo celadon and white porcelain articles of the Yi Dynasty and other precious cultural heritages showing the distinguished resourcefulness and talent of the nation are treated as treasures by world people.

Kyongsong is blessed with favourable conditions for the development of ceramic industry. It is rich in ceramic materials. There are a ceramic college and a university of technology with a pottery department in the area.

The great leader President Kim Il-song has given on-the-spot guidance several times and highly important teachings on scores of occasions from right after the

liberation, clearly indicating the orientation and ways of the development of ceramic industry in the Kyongsong area.

Giving on-the-spot guidance to the Kyongsong ceramic factory on July 6, 1988, the dear leader comrade Kim Chong-il took measures to turn the factory into a ceramic complex and not only to satisfy the domestic demand but to massively export porcelain crafts to many countries.

Now the corporation is working briskly to further modernize the processes of production, boost the quality of products and increase the variety.

Kim Chaek University President's Speech Cited*SK0510010993 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] A report meeting to mark the 45th anniversary of the founding of Kim Chaek Technology University was held on the afternoon of 1 October.

Comrade Chang Chol, vice premier of the Administration Council; Choe Ki-yong, chairman of the Education Committee; and other functionaries concerned attended the report meeting with the faculty and students of the university.

Kim Kyong-wan, president of Kim Chaek Technology University, made a report.

[Begin Kim Kyong-wan recording] Comrades: With the great pride and conviction in magnificently celebrating the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war as the great festival of victors, the entire people throughout the country are vigorously rising up to the all-out forward movement to create new momentum for socialism of our own style. Under such grand circumstances in which we are bringing about a revolutionary upsurge on every front of socialist construction, we are significantly marking the 45th anniversary of the founding of the university.

Under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, we greet the 45th anniversary of the founding of Kim Chaek Technology University, which has been in the vanguard of the education of chuche-oriented science and technology. This is our great glory and felicity.

The history of the growth and prosperity of Kim Chaek Technology University has been the history of the wise leadership of the great leader and the dear leader comrade, who have opened up a new era for the education of chuche-oriented science and technology on this land and who have made a vigorous advance along the road to success and glory. In addition, the history of the growth and prosperity of Kim Chaek Technology University has been the history of our party's great love and consideration for educating future generations and bringing up the cadres of science and technology.

Shortly after the country was liberated, even under the difficult and complex circumstances in which he had to brilliantly promote the grand cause of a new fatherland construction, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song attached a great importance to the founding of Kim Chaek Technology University; energetically made preparations for the founding of the university; and founded Kim Chaek Technology University—a complex base to bring up the cadres of science and technology—on 27 September 1948 for the first time in our country's history.

The founding of Kim Chaek Technology University was the brilliant realization of the great leader's grand plan on founding a chuche-oriented national university, which he had conceived during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle period. The founding of Kim Chaek Technology University was a momentous historical event, which has opened up a new era to bring up the national cadres and develop science and technology.

In order for Kim Chaek Technology University to brilliantly bring up the cadres of science and technology, who should shoulder the construction of socialist economy and the development of the national science and technology, the great leader has paid deep attention to university work at every stage of revolutionary development.

During the days of the arduous war deciding the fate of the fatherland, the great leader looked to the future of the great fatherland, called on the faculty and students in battle to return to the university, and convinced them to continue study. He showed the great love of giving on-the-spot guidance to (Samcholli) University situated in (Wolyongni).

During the on-the-spot guidance and teachings to (Samcholli) University, the great leader's grand plan on socialist construction, which was unprecedented throughout the world, gave invincible faith to the faculty and students of the university, as well as to our people. This was a militant banner that vigorously encouraged their struggle.

The historical cause of socialist industrialization in our country has been successfully achieved during the 14-year-short period. This brilliant success has been due to the wise leadership of the great leader, who has made Kim Chaek Technology University stand in the vanguard of brilliantly bringing up cadres of science and technology.

In keeping with the demand of the technological revolution on a new higher plane, the great leader has fully elucidated the task of strengthening the work of bringing up technological cadres, the tangible method of revolutionizing students, and the task of rapidly developing science and technology to establish chuche by completely removing failures in all fields.

The great leader acquainted himself in detail with the reality of university education. On two days alone, from

23 to 24 May 1989, the great leader gave programmatic teachings as many as six times and showed consideration for constructing modern university buildings, dormitories, libraries, laboratories, gymnasiums, and refectories. When the school buildings were completed, he personally took up the brush and wrote the name of the university. On 8 May 1993, he personally visited the university, school buildings, dormitories, refectories, and libraries; gave programmatic teachings; and showed great consideration for building modern university laboratories by using the valuable national funds.

In order to firmly build Kim Chaek Technology University as a genuine successor of our revolutionary cause and as a technology university to bring up the chuche-type cadres of science and technology, who are endlessly loyal to the party and the leader, the dear leader comrade gave on-the-spot guidance three times and gave important teachings approximately 400 times. [end recording]

He went on to say that, under the wise leadership and constant consideration of the great leader and the dear leader comrade, the university has been brilliantly outfitted with modern education and laboratory facilities. He said that the university, which employs a group of competent teachers and researchers, has become a reliable base for training the cadres of the national science and technology. He noted with pride that the university has positively contributed to accelerating the development of national science and technology and to realizing chuche-orientation, modernization, and science-orientation of the national economy.

He went to say:

[Begin Kim recording] We should uphold not only the historic on-the-spot guidance that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song gave on 8 May 1993 while visiting the new school buildings, but also the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's teachings on strengthening the university work. We are assigned the heavy and glorious task of bringing about a new turn in the university education work.

Above all, we should thoroughly set up the party's unitary ideological system among the faculty and students of the university. By so doing, we should bring them up to be genuine loyalists and filial sons who are endlessly faithful to the party and the leader.

In hearty response to the great leader's thesis on socialist education and to the dear leader comrade's view of education, we should momentarily enhance the level of scientific and technological education of the university in keeping with the trends of modern science and technology.

We should thoroughly establish chuche in the education of science and technology; should regard the education contents as party's policy; should teach students to develop effectively and use our country's natural resources; should strengthen the chuche-orientation and independence of the national economy; and should more

properly teach students science and technology to promote national economic construction.

We should momentarily develop the field of ultra-modern science and technology, resolve the issues concerning science and technology in our own way, and thereby positively contribute to realizing the wide production of automatic machines, robots, and computers.

We should firmly build laboratories in keeping with the trends of modern science and technology; should promote school work on a regular base; should vigorously struggle to enhance the quality of the faculty and researchers; should increase the number of doctorates by improving and strengthening the work to construct doctoral institutes; and should further support educational tasks.

As in the past, upholding the leadership of the great leader and the dear leader comrade, we should bring about great success in educational tasks in keeping with the noble mission of the Kim Chaek Technology University. By so doing, we should reward the high confidence and expectation of the great leader and the dear leader comrade with loyalty and filial duty.

All should unite around the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, uphold the chuche-oriented educational ideology, and should bring about a new turn in the work of educational science.

For the completion of the socialist cause, the endless prosperity of the country, national reunification, the final victory of our revolution, and the victory of an independent cause, we wholeheartedly wish Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il long life and good health. [end recording]

Kim Chong-il Sends Birthday Table to Researcher

*SK0710121093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a seventieth birthday table to Nam Chi-il, a researcher of the synthetic pharmaceutical research institute of the DPRK Academy of Medical Science.

Born into a farmer's family as the only son in Najin-Sonbong Municipality during the Japanese imperialist colonial rule, Nam Chi-il graduated from university but could not realize his dream of a scientist, being an intellectual in a colony.

The great leader President Kim Il-song assigned him to the important post of director of the institute, and the Workers' Party of Korea made him a merited scientist, a recipient of science prize, a professor and doctor.

He has contributed to the development of pharmaceutical science by making efficacious medicines relying on

domestic raw materials and publishing some 30 scientific papers in the past scores of years, and brought up four doctors, eight associate doctors and many other scientists.

Upon receiving the benevolent birthday table, he said he would cherish this honour deep in his heart and repay the benevolence of the dear leader by registering greater success in his pharmaceutical research and rearing more young scientists.

Press Group Marks Anniversary; WPK Sends Message

*SK0810051693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437
GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—A meeting marking the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Science and Encyclopedia Press Group took place on the spot Thursday.

At the meeting Kim Ki-nam, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK), read out a congratulatory message of the WPK Central Committee to the journalists, editors and other employees of the press group.

The message notes that over the past 40 years the press group under the wise guidance of the party has successfully carried out the editing and publication of books and magazines comprehensively and profoundly explaining and propagandizing the ideas and theories, lines and policies of the party and the leader and scientific and technological publications.

"The journalists and editors of the Science and Encyclopedia Press Group, upholding our party's policy of science, have energetically pushed ahead with the publication of books of science and technology instrumental in disseminating and generalizing the latest achievements of science and technology and in solving scientific and technological problems which awaited an urgent solution in economic construction and in the cultural and health domains and, thereby, contributed to developing the nation's science and technology, realizing the chuche-orientation, modernization and scientification of the national economy and to bringing the vitality of our health care system into play," the message stresses.

Im Kwang-son, general director and concurrently editor-in-chief of the Science and Encyclopedia Press Group, delivered a report at the meeting.

He recalled that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, with a deep grasp on the important role played by scientific publications in the revolution and construction, has built the Press Group into a comprehensive science publishing house and indicated its mission and tasks, the direction and ways of its activities and the fundamental principles to be maintained by it in publishing work.

He said the functionaries, journalists and editors of the Press Group should put big efforts into the compilation of theoretical books and magazines helpful to hitting the long-range targets for the development of science and technology till the year 2000 and the compilation of the "great encyclopedia of Korea".

A message of pledge to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted at the meeting.

Lake Sijung To Be Developed as Tourist Area

*SK0810003193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—Lake Sijung is located on the east coast of Korea, only 50 kilometre drive to the south from Wonsan.

The lake was a bay in the olden times. The lake took shape when its mouth was blocked by land.

The lake 15 kilometres in circumference covers an area of 2.3 square kilometres.

It is 300 metres from the sea. Surrounded with pine woods, many species of flowers and expansive broad sand beach, it presents a beautiful scenery.

The lake teems with fishes including carp, crucian carp, snakehead and eel.

The mud of the lake bed is efficacious for the medical treatment of women's diseases, inflammatory diseases and troubles of the peripheral nervous system so sanatoria and holiday homes are found on the lakeside.

Lake Sijung is an intermediate resting place on the way to Mt. Kumgang, a world-famous scenic mountain.

Visitors there can enjoy the natural beauty, bathing, boating and fishing.

In recent years, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il took measures to build the lake as a site of cultural rest of people and an international tourist resort.

A tourist hotel is now under construction on the lakeside.

Tourist hotels with an accommodation of 1,800 will be built there in the future in styles of single store, 1 or 2 store solitary, 2 or 3 store bundle and 84 story tower-shape buildings and an international posh office and cultural amusement facilities will make their appearance.

Officials Lay Wreaths at Martyrs' Cemeteries

*SK0110070593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0409
GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—Party and government senior officials, working people and People's

Army servicemen laid wreaths in the revolutionary martyrs cemetery on Mt. Taesong and the patriotic martyrs cemetery on September 30, the harvest moon day.

Placed on the wreath-laying stands of the cemeteries were wreaths sent by the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Present at the wreath-laying ceremonies were Kim Yong-nam, Han Song-yong, Choe Tae-pok, Kim Yong-sun, Choe Yong-nim and other leading officials of party and power bodies, administrative and economic organs, working people's organizations and central organs, anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, leading officials of Armed Forces, scientific educational and cultural and art sectors, and working people, People's Army servicemen, youths and students in the city.

Amid the playing of the wreath-laying music, wreaths were placed in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee and the Administration Council of the DPRK.

Wreaths were also laid in the name of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, the Ministry of People's Armed Forces, commissions and ministries of the Administration Council, working people's organizations, central organs, science and education organs, Korean People's Army units and party and power bodies, administrative and economic organs, factories and cooperative farms in Pyongyang.

The participants observed a moment's silence in memory of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs and the patriotic martyrs who had fallen in the struggle for the liberation of the country, people's freedom and happiness, the building of socialism and national reunification, true to the wise leadership of President Kim Il-song.

Cilreco Publishes Special Issue of Bulletin

*SK0110065193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0401
GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—The International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea (Cilreco) published a special issue of its bulletin on September 14 on the occasion of the month of support to the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo (DCRK).

The bulletin carries the detailed gist of the 10-point policy to be carried out by the DCRK put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song at the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

It also carries an appeal "Let Us Actively Support the Cause of Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea" published by the International Liaison Committee and an explanatory note about "Koryo".

Newly Released Documentary Films Previewed

*SK0210000493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1532
GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—The Korean documentary film studio recently produced several documentary films.

The documentary film "We Won Victory, an Evening Performance to Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Victory in the War" gives a truthful and vivid representation of the evening performance which was held with splendor on July 27.

The performance by youth and students, People's Army soldiers, artistes and sportsmen, 80,000 in all, shows on a grand epical canvas the immortal feats of the great leader President Kim Il-song who led the war of justice of the Korean people to victory and has built a powerful socialist state, independent, self-sustaining and self-reliant in defence, in this land and the tested leadership and revolutionary exploits of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the successor to the cause of chuche.

The documentary "The Motherland Is My Life" impressively tells how precious the motherland is, through concrete and vivid materials about life experiences of the Korean people, stressing the idea that the socialist country must be firmly defended.

Through scenes showing the ineffable hardships the Korean people had suffered under the heinous colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists before the liberation, the film emphasizes the idea that a true life and happiness are unthinkable apart from the motherland.

The documentary "Tomb of King Tongmyong" shows part of the national architecture and time-honored cultural tradition through the tomb of the founder of Koguryo Dynasty (277 B.C.-668 A.D.), a great power which boasted itself of its history spanning a thousand years in the East of Asia.

Through remnants of a crown, a tile bearing letters "Nungsa" (mausoleum) and many other remains, history books about the birth of the sage King Tongmyong, Ko Chu-mong, and his activities, the "Tombstone of the Sage King Tongmyong, the Founder of Koguryo" erected in 1193 and Chongnung Temple, the film proves that the royal tomb is that of the founder of Koguryo which had been relocated by people of Koguryo when moving the capital to Pyongyang.

Among the documentary films is "Pyongyang Girls" which introduces the noble spirit and beautiful traits of Pyongyang girls who are devoting their all to the society and collective and to revolutionary comrades, bringing their youth, ideal and love into bloom on the road of working as desired by the party.

School Children's Palace Anniversary Marked

*SK3009054493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427
GMT 30 Sep 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, September 30 (KCNA)—The 30th anniversary of the founding of the Pyongyang school children's palace was commemorated.

The great leader President Kim Il-song, attaching great importance to the social education of school youth and children, founded the school children's palace, a unique extracurricular education base of school youth and children, on September 30, 1963.

In the past the palace has satisfactorily discharged its mission of extracurricular education of school children.

A large number of school children have grown up to be reliable masters of the revolution and construction fully prepared mentally, morally and physically, talented reserve scientists, artistes and sportsmen.

The palace has made contributions to raising the prestige of the country externally and realizing an independent reunification of the country and global independence by successfully ensuring visits of many foreigners and overseas compatriots and performances of school children's art troupes abroad.

The Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea in a congratulatory message to the teaching staff of the palace on its 30th birthday noted with high estimation that they have made a great contribution to displaying the superiority and vitality of the Korean-style system of afterschool education for children by thoroughly applying the party's policy of afterschool education of youth and children.

A meeting was held Wednesday to mark the 30th founding anniversary of the palace.

Present there were secretary of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea Yun Ki-pok, vice-premier of the Administration Council Chang Chol, and others.

Addressing the meeting, President of the palace Yi Won-il recalled that the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il have clearly indicated the road ahead of the palace and led it to consolidate its material and technical foundations and fully discharge its mission and tasks as a base of afterschool education for youth and children.

A message of pledge to Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted at the meeting.

South Korea

IAEA Submits Documents on Nuclear Issue to UN

SK0810131693 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1209 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Mr. Kyd, director of the Information Department of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], has revealed that the documents he submitted to the UN Secretary General and the UN Security Council include not only the contents of North Korea's nuclear-treaty nonimplementation, based on the resolution against North Korea adopted at the UN Security Council in April, but also the contents of the two resolutions adopted by the Board of Governors and the IAEA general assembly last month.

The reports describe the contents of North Korea's nuclear-treaty nonimplementation since last June and describe in detail the contents of what was discussed at the Board of Governors meeting and the IAEA general assembly.

UK Journal: North Building Underground Runway

SK0710234993 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 7 Oct 93

[By reporter Chong Yong-sok in London]

[Text] The British military magazine DEFENSE WEEKLY reported that North Korea is building an underground runway at Okchon Air Field.

Quoting a U.S. intelligence source, the latest issue of DEFENSE WEEKLY reported that the underground runway at Okchon Air Field, with 29 MIG-19's, is 700 meters long, 14 meters wide, and 14 meters high.

The U.S. intelligence authorities, however, did not confirm if the construction of this underground runway was real or if it was a disguise tactic of North Korea.

If the construction of the underground runway is true, DEFENSE WEEKLY believes that the U.S. Army or the ROK Army will find it very difficult to cope with North Korea's Air Force strength.

Defense Ministry Comments

SK0810122893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1105 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Underground runways have been built at seven of about 20 North Korean military air bases, a senior official of the Defense Ministry said on Friday.

The air fields with underground runways include those of Pukchang and Sunchon, both in the South Pyongan Province, he said.

An additional underground runway is now under construction at Onchon, South Pyongan Province.

"Upon the completion of the Onchon project, yet another underground runway is likely to be built at the Toksan Air Base," he said.

The official made the remarks while commenting on a report appearing in the latest issue of JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY, a prestigious military journal of the United Kingdom, on North Korea's underground runways.

He said North Korea has already been using the underground runways at the seven air bases for operational purposes.

The Onchon Air Base, whose underground runway is set for completion at the end of this month, is the home base of North Korea's 57th fighter wing possessing 29 MiG-19's, the official said.

U.S. Congressman Reportedly To Visit DPRK

SK0810023093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0204 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Rep. Gary Ackerman is expected to meet with North Korean supreme leader Kim Il-sung next week and directly deliver the U.S. position on Pyongyang's nuclear problem, officials said Friday.

Ackerman, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asia-Pacific Affairs, will enter North Korea via Beijing on Saturday afternoon and stay until Oct. 12, during which time he will meet with Kim and other leaders.

He will become the first American to ever cross from North to South through the heavily fortified truce village of Panmunjom on Oct. 12. The New York Democrat is scheduled to give a press conference at Panmunjom.

It was unclear whether the congressman is going in his private capacity or as house subcommittee chairman, but the officials said he is not expected to carry a personal letter from U.S. President Bill Clinton.

The congressman had initially planned to go in August, but Pyongyang postponed the trip.

Ackerman's predecessor, Stephen Solarz, went to North Korea twice and met with Kim Il-sung.

The visit, arranged by North Korea's "Foreign Affairs Association," comes at a critical moment as the Pyongyang-Washington high-level talks are at a standstill.

The United States is refusing a third round, demanding that North Korea first talk with South Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

It's believed here that the United States may use Ackerman's visit to deliver Washington's stance on the nuclear situation directly to Kim Il-sung without going through his subordinates, and to hear from him directly.

Board Approves Transit

*SK0810065793 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0605 GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] The ROK Government has decided to allow Representative Gary Ackerman, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asia-Pacific Affairs, to pass through Panmunjom.

A high-level National Unification Board authority said on 8 October that the government had submitted 20 trial workings to North Korea in February 1982, including an item guaranteeing the passage of all foreigners who wish to visit the North and South. In conformity with this principle, it is the government's position to allow Representative Ackerman's passage through Panmunjom, he added.

Hosokawa Hints About Seoul Visit This Year

*SK0810005593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0047 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa strongly hinted Thursday he wants to visit South Korea soon, supporting press reports that he will go to Seoul early next month for a summit.

"I want to set foot in Asia in the nearest possible future. I hope to do it within the year," Hosokawa told reporters when asked whether he was considering going to South Korea.

Japanese press reports said the prime minister plans to meet Korean President Kim Yong-sam in a weekend summit Nov. 6-7. Government sources said the possible dates also include Nov. 13-14, but the earlier weekend is more likely.

A Foreign Ministry official said that, assuming the summit will take place, the site could be other than Seoul. Former Korean President No Tae-u chose to come to Kyoto last November for a one-day summit visit.

The official suggested that Hosokawa may do the same, and opt for a meeting outside the capital.

But government sources were careful in commenting on the possibility of a meeting next month, saying that's when the Diet will be at the peak of deliberation on political reform bills, the linchpin of Hosokawa's cabinet.

"Because the prime minister realistically has to put the Diet schedule first, his South Korean visit within this year is flexible," one source said.

Deputy Premier: Seoul 'Will Not Open Rice Market'

*SK0810095093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0928 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Yi Kyong-sik said on Friday that his government will not open rice market even if Japan partially opens it.

While speaking at a working luncheon at the Foreign Correspondents Club, Yi said Korea cannot open the market because "Korea is in more difficult political and economic conditions than Japan so far as the rice market is concerned."

He noted that rice is the staple food grain for the Koreans and, besides, more than 15 percent of the population are engaged in rice cultivation.

The deputy prime minister also said the government does not consider opening the basic cable-TV telecasting to foreigners.

"But, foreigners may be allowed to invest in some specific suppliers of cable TV program to an extent that does not exceed 15 percent of the total," he said.

The government is further studying the possibility of upwardly readjusting foreigners' stock investment ceilings, Yi said.

Japan Delivers List of Korean Soldiers From WW II

*SK0810030393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0226 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Japan delivered to the South Korean Foreign Ministry on Friday a list of some 200,000 Koreans it enlisted in the Imperial Army during World War II.

The list, discovered at the Japanese Health and Welfare Ministry, has supplementary documents such as personal information on Korean soldiers and record of prisoner interrogations, Ministry officials said.

Korea was under Japanese colonial rule from 1910 until its liberation at the end of World War II in 1945. The Imperial Army recruited tens of thousands of men to fight for the Japanese side and as forced laborers.

"It's another important progress for future-oriented relations between South Korea and Japan," an official said.

Negotiations for the list were concluded when Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu went to Tokyo late last month, he said.

Former South Korean President No Tae-u had asked for the list when he visited Japan in 1991, when pressure was mounting here for Japan to admit to its wartime atrocities and apologize.

Tokyo delivered a list of 90,000 draftees later that year.

The list received Friday comprises records from different units of the Army and Navy during the war years and has a separate compilation of Korean soldiers.

The Japanese Government says the official number of enlisted Koreans is 242,000, and the list of 21,900 soldiers killed was received in 1975.

Further on Iran's Foreign Minister in Seoul

NC0710150193 Tehran IRIB Television Second Program Network in English 1415 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Iran's Foreign Minister, Mr. Velayati, currently in South Korea, has discussed mutual ties as well as regional and international issues in a meeting with his South Korean counterpart. The two sides also called for the expansion of bilateral economic and political ties in their dialogues.

Meanwhile, the South Korean foreign minister expressed satisfaction over Iran's peace-seeking efforts and announced his country's willingness to promote mutual political ties.

Seoul Said Seeking Expansion of Ties

LD0710161893 Tehran IRNA in English 1546 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—South Korean President, Kim Yong-sam, today announced his country's desire to expand ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran in various fields. Kim who was talking to the visiting Iranian foreign minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati in Seoul, said Tehran-Seoul cooperation was mostly concentrated on economy and called for promotion of bilateral ties in diplomatic area as well. He called as "effective" Iran's role in diminishing the ongoing regional tension in the Korean peninsula and called for Tehran's cooperation with his country in this regard.

Kim also awarded Velayati South Korea's highest political medal. He described Velayati as a veteran foreign minister who during long years of his diplomatic mission had made "effective" efforts to reduce tensions through peaceful means.

Kim congratulated Velayati on President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's re-election for another four-year-term and wished him success in implementation of his government's economic development plans.

Velayati in return termed as "important" broadening of bilateral ties and exchange of views on issues of mutual interest and congratulated Kim on his election to the presidential post.

The minister said that he had "fruitful" talks with his Korean counterpart Lee Sang Ock [name as received] and added that Tehran-Seoul ties were making good progress in various fields. He underscored the two sides interest in expansion of bilateral ties.

Meanwhile in another meeting with South Korean national parliament speaker, Yang Hyung Sop [name as received], here today Velayati stressed Iran's support for policies adopted in line with unification of the two Koreas.

Velayati considered as "effective" exchange of political delegations and forming of parliamentary groups for expansion of bilateral relations. He extended an official invitation to Yang from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri and outlined the Islamic Republic's stances vis-a-vis various regional and world issues, including unification of the two Koreas.

Yang in reply expressed satisfaction with expansion of bilateral ties and said exchange of parliamentary delegations was useful in promotion of relations. He said he was satisfied with Velayati's visit to Seoul and welcomed Nateq-Nuri invitation.

After attending the 48th session of the United Nations General Assembly Velayati left New York for Seoul on Tuesday for a three-day official visit.

Kim Yong-sam Sends Message of Support to Yeltsin

SK0810030193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0230 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam sent Friday a message to Russian President Boris Yeltsin to encourage him in his reforms and express support for him.

"I am glad the Russian people, under your excellency's leadership, have overcome their difficulties well and taken the path to harmony and solidarity," the message says.

"I support the political and economic reform you are pushing ahead with and firmly believe that your efforts for the reforms will bear fruit without fail."

Further on U.S. Returning Military Bases Land

SK0810145093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0843 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—The U.S. Forces in Korea (USFK) are to return some 208,000 pyong of land to South Korea, Foreign Ministry officials said Friday.

The two sides established an Environment Subcommittee to study pollution around military installations and to solve problems with waste disposal and incurred costs, they said.

Accord was reached at the 173rd joint committee session of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA).

A radar base near Seoul, and Camps Garry Owen, Indian and Seattle will be returned to Korea along with parts of Camps Pelham and Edwards.

One of the SOFA Committee's functions is negotiation of base land rearrangements when property is deemed no longer necessary for USFK operations, or when demanded by the Seoul side.

The subcommittee, launched July 16, was given its first task at a meeting Friday, the officials said. The subcommittee evaluates environmental conditions surrounding American installations.

The two sides will have to negotiate on who will pay the costs arising from subcommittee projects.

Economic Experts Brief President for APEC Summit

*SK0810034193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0246 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam is cramming for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Seattle on Nov. 20 with help from a team of experts in regional and international economics.

Leading the team helping him deepen his knowledge of the issues, including the Uruguay Round multilateral trade talks and APEC, is chief economic secretary Pak Chae-yun.

Team members include former Finance Minister Kim Man-che, Professor Pak Yong-chol of Korea University, former Korea Development Institute (KDI) President Kim Ki-hwan, Yu Chang-hui, President of the Korea Institute of International Economic Policy (KIEP), Assistant Foreign Minister for Policy Planning Kwon Pyong-hyon, and Assistant Economic Planning Minister for International Policy Coordination Kang Pong-kyun.

The team meets once a week to discuss policies on international economic problems, and then Pak briefs Kim on the gist of their discussion.

Separately, KIEP is working on the keynote speech that Kim will deliver at the APEC summit, which is to be attended by 15 presidents and prime ministers in the region.

U.S. President Bill Clinton, as chairman of the summit, has reportedly asked Kim to deliver a keynote speech, and Chongwadae [presidential offices] officials say that this brightens the prospects for future Seoul-Washington relations.

A team member says that Kim is particularly interested in international economic issues, and his speech at the Seattle summit will lead to an important role in the APEC for Seoul.

Kim's interest in international economic issues could be seen in a recent Chongwadae economic policy meeting, where participants say he gave a thumbs-up, without hesitation, to Professor Pak Yong-chol when Pak said, "the government should now seek market-opening and

industrial globalization policies not under foreign countries' request or pressure but according to our own need."

Kim is often misunderstood as having a near-sighted view of international economic issues because he has focused on domestic reform since he took office in February, but he has a far-reaching and open-minded view of international economics, the officials say.

In his keynote speech at the Seattle summit, he will call for an open, far-sighted regional cooperation system, not near-sighted, closed cooperation, they say.

He will also render positive support for a new Pacific community plan that the United States proposed in July.

Number of Taiwanese Tourists Drops Sharply

*SK0810002993 Seoul YONHAP in English 2358 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—The number of Taiwanese tourists visiting South Korea dropped sharply to 296,000 in 1992, the year Seoul and Taipei severed their diplomatic relations, according to the Transportation Ministry.

The number includes 248,861 Taiwanese tourists visiting South Korea before Seoul-Taipei ties were cut off following the establishment of relations with China in August, the Ministry said Friday.

The figure also represents 70,000 fewer tourists than the government had expected from Taiwan in 1992, officials said.

Tourism had been active between South Korea and Taiwan with rates of increases in the number of tourists visiting South Korea of 34.8 percent in 1990 and 33.2 percent in 1991. The Seoul government had expected the number to continue to increase by about 30 percent in 1992 to 366,000.

In 1993, the number of Taiwanese tourists totaled only 95,413 in the first eight months, some 229,000 less than the Seoul government had expected.

The officials said they expect only about 47,000 tourists from Taiwan in the rest of this year, or some 105,000 less than the government expects, unless relations between Seoul and Taipei improve in the meantime.

In short, there will be 334,000 fewer Taiwanese tourists visiting South Korea this year than the government had projected, they said.

Meanwhile, the loss of income from spending by Taiwanese tourists in Korea in the year ending Aug. 31 was estimated at about 246 million U.S. dollars, based on per capita spending by Taiwanese tourists in 1991 of 819 dollars, they said.

Swedes Agree on Intellectual Property Rights Accord

*SK0710135393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0815 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Sweden have agreed on intellectual property rights protection that covers 12 pharmaceutical products, the Foreign Ministry announced Thursday.

The agreement, reached in a second round of talks in Stockholm on Wednesday and Thursday, does not specify what 12 products will be protected, the ministry said.

Instead, it is up to the two sides to determine what will be included in the list after full agreement between the countries and the protection takes effect immediately upon selection, it said.

One of the thorny issues was continued protection of Korean businessmen who introduce items, primarily pharmaceuticals, copied after Swedish brands but with minor alterations in the components.

The agreement says that Korean businessmen who registered before this week's accord will still be protected, the ministry said.

South, North To Attend Asia Security Meeting

*SK0710061493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0532 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—South and North Korea are both expected to be represented at a six-nation security dialogue among government officials and private scholars in San Diego, California, this week, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

The two Koreas, Japan, the United States, China and Russia will come together at the University of California in San Diego for the Oct. 8-9 conference, titled "Northeast Asia cooperation dialogue" and sponsored by the university's institute on global conflict and cooperation.

The conference has no set agenda and participants are expected to address confidence-building measures, security cooperation, disarmament and nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Although a similar security dialogue channel already exists for the entire Asia-Pacific Region, the San Diego conference may well be the beginning of a smaller forum specifically for Northeast Asia, Ministry Officials said.

The conference has added weight because of North Korea's participation, they said.

Kwon Pyong-hyon, Assistant Foreign Minister for Policy Planning, heads the Seoul delegation.

President Calls Security-Related Ministers Meeting

*SK0810084493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0827 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam will meet with security-related ministers at Chongwadae [presidential offices] on Saturday morning to discuss a broad range of security matters.

Attending will be Prime Minister Hwang In-song, Unification Minister Han Wan-sang, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, Agency for National Security Planning Director Kim Tok, Chief Presidential Secretary Pak Kwan-yong and Senior Presidential Secretary for Foreign Affairs and National Security Chong Chong-uk.

On the agenda is North Korea's nuclear issue, North Korea's military situation, the military and political impact of China's underground nuclear test on the Korean peninsula, and the inter-Korean contact on an exchange of special envoys, officials said.

An official said: "In spite of the International Atomic Energy Agency's recent resolution on North Korea, Pyongyang continues to reject or avoid the international community's requirements for a solution of the nuclear issue. Moreover, it appears that Pyongyang is using the recently resumed inter-Korean dialogue as a means to resume the high-level North Korea-U.S. talks.

"The meeting is called because the situation surrounding us is developing unusually.

"China's nuclear test is exerting a grave impact on the stability of Northeast Asia, and recent developments in North Korea's military situation, including the construction of underground runways, is unusual.

"The meeting will not result in the issue of any important policy statement, but will provide a forum of discussing measures against the recent developments in the security situation."

Opposition Lawmakers Show New Attitude

*SK0810100993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0733 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[By Cho Se-hyon]

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—The National Assembly is holding a parliamentary inspection of the administration, and the most surprising development so far is the change in the attitude of opposition lawmakers.

The general conduct of the representatives of the opposition Democratic Party has changed so much, in fact, that even leaders of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party acknowledge that "the opposition party is alive and well."

Gone are the days when opposition lawmakers, in the opinion of some critics, concentrated only in saying "no" for the sake of saying "no," or simply attacking the government and the ruling party for what they regarded were policy mistakes or wrongdoings.

Opposition representatives these days are criticising administration policies and works, but unlike in the past, they are suggesting constructive alternatives at the same time.

They are also seeking and receiving the help of specialists, while many of them actually are running around to collect pertinent materials and background information on a subject they are inspecting.

Their efforts to grapple with the heart of a given issue are apparent when they question administration officials.

These attitude is in sharp contrast to the National Assembly session in 1988, when the parliamentary inspection was revived for the first time after a lapse under the governments of Army generals turned president. Opposition lawmakers at that time vied against each other in "exposing" administration misdeeds.

When there were four political parties, opposition lawmakers competed against representatives of other opposition parties rather than lawmakers of the government party.

It was not rare that an opposition lawmaker asked a question but left the chamber even before government officials answered it.

But now, opposition lawmakers are not only asking sincere questions but showing more expertise on the issues.

Rep. Pak Sok-mu, who has earlier declared he will become an "expert politician," has offered an alternative to the government's current educational policy. He had indeed expertly dealt with such problem as rewriting text books.

Rep. Pak Tae-yong on the Finance Committee came up with a set of counterproposals for the administration's laws on earnings and inheritance taxes, tax exemption and other tax reform measures in the wake of the real-name financial transaction system introduced by President Kim on Aug. 12.

His proposal was so thorough and viable that one Finance Ministry official said there was "a trace" that shows how hard Rep. Pak studied the issue.

The Democratic Party fielded lawmakers with military backgrounds, including a number of former generals, when the National Defense Committee inspected the Defense Ministry.

The inspection was carried out so thoroughly and in such detail that many observers said that the Defense Ministry has finally lost its status as one of "the untouchable" government agencies.

There were also indications that many opposition representatives went out into the field, so to speak, to check and verify the facts to support their arguments during the inspections.

Some other lawmakers conducted their own opinion polls to see how ordinary citizens feel and think about issues they want to deal with. Rep. Kim Won-kil on the Finance Committee visited 600 small- and medium-sized companies and met with 1,200 workers to find out their reaction to the real-name system.

Still other opposition representatives are forming groups in order to conduct a joint study of an issue and coordinate their strategy and questions for the government.

Yet there is no effort on the part of the party to control its lawmakers during the inspection session. Time has changed since the days when Chairman Kim Tae-chung called them individually to encourage and guide them.

Despite such centripetal force provided by Kim Tae-chung, opposition lawmakers are working harder, perhaps because they now realize that they can no longer receive support of the voters by just opposing the ruling party and the government in the new era of the civilian rule.

Promotions Difficult for Government Officials

SK0810100093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0650 GMT
8 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—The average government official promoted to grade four in 1992 had spent an average 12.2 years at grade five, according to documents submitted by the Government Administration Ministry to the National Assembly on Thursday for its inspection of the administration.

Officials legally qualify for promotion to grade four after five years at grade five.

Those at the Military Manpower Administration took the longest time, 18.3 years, to get move up one grade to grade four. The Fisheries Administration was next longest with 15.3 years, followed by the Forestry Administration with 15.1 years, the Korea Maritime and Port Administration with 14.5 years, the Defense Ministry with 14.4 years, the Office of National Tax Administration with 14.3 years, the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry with 13.9 years, the Economic Planning Board with 13.3 years, the Seoul city government with 13.2 years and the Finance Ministry with 13.1 years.

Officials in the office of the second state minister for political affairs waited just 8.4 years, and their colleagues

at the Information and Health and the Social Affairs Ministries were next fastest at 8.9 years each.

In promotion to grade five, the Fisheries Administration was slowest with 14.5 years, followed by the office of supply with 12.4 years, the Construction Ministry with 11.9 years, the Korea Maritime and Port Administration with 11.5 years, the Industrial Advancement Administration with 11.1 years and the Forestry Administration and the Korean Customs Administration with 10.4 years each.

Officials qualify for promotion to grade five after four years at grade six.

The averages for promotions last year were 6.1 years (three years legal qualification) to grade six, 5.1 years (three years) to grade seven, 10.3 years (five years) to grade three, 4.3 years (three years) to grade two and 4.1 years (three years) to grade one.

Promotions were most difficult at the Defense Ministry, the Military Manpower Administration and the Forestry Administration last year.

In the Defense Ministry, for instance, an average of 16.6 years were needed for promotion to grade three, 14.4 years to grade four and 10.1 years to grade five.

Bank of Korea Lowers Estimate of Economic Growth

*SK0810015993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0135 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—South Korea's economic growth for this year is predicted at between 4 percent and 4.3 percent, which would be the lowest since 2.2 percent in 1962 not counting 1980's minus growth of 3.7 percent in the wake of the oil crisis.

Stagflation, inflation combined with recession, is feared as consumer price rises are expected to exceed the 5-percent limit set by the government and hit between 5.3 percent and 5.8 percent.

The Bank of Korea lowered its estimate of 1993 economic growth Friday to 4-4.3 percent from its July prediction of 5.7 percent due to the slow economic recovery of advanced countries, poor agricultural output following a cool summer, and tight spending as the result of the real-name financial system.

The 4 percent to 4.3 percent projection is lower than last year's real increase in the gross national product (GNP) of 4.7 percent and is more distant from the estimate of Korea's potential growth of 6.8 percent to 7.2 percent.

If economic expansion drags 3 percent behind the potential projection, though it is an ideal without domestic and foreign contingencies taken into account, it can bring about deflation and unemployment and throw cold water on economic activities, experts say.

The Korean economy is in a despondent state with weak competitiveness, thicker walls of trade and technology in advanced countries, and hot pursuit by late developing countries, but the real problem is that hopeful signs for the ailing economy cannot be found, they say.

The central bank also lowered its prediction of facility investment and exports this year to a 1.5-percent drop and an 8.6-percent rise, respectively, from the July estimate of 7.7-percent and 9.9-percent growth.

Electronics Firms' Exports Increasing

*SK0710024893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0141 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—Prospects for South Korea's productivity and exports of electronics products look good with the increased numbers of overseas factories, which help overcome export barriers.

Samsung, Goldstar and Daewoo Electronics Companies can expect sales of items made abroad to take up some 30 percent of their total exports this year, up from 20 percent last year, industry sources said Thursday.

Productivity is so high at their overseas factories that they had already exceeded last year's output for most mainstay items last month.

They anticipate their foreign operations to boost their exports by evading anti-dumping tariffs and cutting transportation costs.

Samsung's overseas factories exported 1.4 million color television sets between January and August, up from 1.05 million a year earlier.

It made 550,000 video cassette recorders abroad in the eight months, up 25 percent from last year, and overseas output of color televisions, vcrs and microwave ovens rose an average 30 percent.

Goldstar had produced 760,000 color television sets abroad by the end of September, compared with 692,000 for all of 1992, and is expected to make 300,000 VCRS by the year-end as it already hit 240,000 last month.

Having turned out 92,000 in the previous nine months, it anticipates making 150,000 microwave ovens as well.

Daewoo had manufactured 389,000 color television sets and 343,000 microwave ovens by September, far more than last year's 257,000 and 298,000, respectively.

Increased Penalty for Military Service Evasion Urged

*SK0810014793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0105 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—The government should increase the penalty for going abroad to evade military service, Rep. Na Pyong-son of the Democratic

Party said Friday during parliamentary inspection of the office of military manpower.

Many men who had not completed their military duty had failed to return after going abroad under the pretext of tourism, employment or study, Na said.

He proposed that the government increase the fine for draft dodgers or impose prison sentences on them.

The number of overseas residents who had not completed their military service was 19 in 1985, 49 in 1987, 67 in 1992 and 306 as of the end of August.

The penalty is currently a fine of 2 million won (2,475 dollars) to 20 million won, and is too light to prevent those residing overseas from evading military service, Na claimed.

Burma

SLORC Chief on Boosting Agricultural Output

*BK0710123393 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 6 Oct 93*

[Text] The third day session of the second four-monthly coordination meeting for 1993 between the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and the state and divisional Law and Order Restoration Councils [LORC] continued this morning at 0900 at the meeting hall of the office of the Army commander in chief. Senior General Than Shwe, SLORC chairman and commander in chief of the Defense Services, delivered a closing address.

The meeting was attended by Senior General Than Shwe, SLORC chairman; Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin and Lieutenant General Tin Tun, deputy prime ministers; Lt. Gen. Maung Aye, deputy commander in chief of the Defense Services and commander in chief of the Army; SLORC members; SLORC secretary-1; SLORC secretary-2; ministers; the chief justice; the attorney general; the deputy auditor general; the chairman of the Public Services Selection and Training Board; the chairman of Yangon [Rangoon] City Development Committee; senior military officials from the Defense Ministry; regional commanders; divisional commanders; deputy ministers; chairmen of the state and divisional LORCs; and responsible personnel. Lieutenant Colonel Pe Nyein, director general of the SLORC office, acted as secretary of the meeting.

At the meeting, the ministers presented reports concerning undertakings by their respective ministries towards the development of the country, as well as the various presentations by states and divisions to the ministries. Continuing, SLORC Secretary-1 Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt presented a report on matters relating to the National Convention, discussions with the armed Kachin organization to enter the legal fold, the terrorist insurgent situation, various rumors, seizure of illegal logs, and eliminating bribery in government departments. Next, SLORC Secretary-2 Lt. Gen. Tin U presented reports on the formation and responsibilities of district and township law and order restoration councils, implementation of activities, and the development situation of the national economy.

Sr. Gen. Than Shwe, SLORC chairman and commander in chief of the Defense Services, then delivered a closing address. He explained that in this coordination meeting, just as the various ministries presented their respective plans and objectives in their development reports, the respective state and divisional LORCs have also presented inadequacies in implementing the activities. He urged them to effectively implement activities to succeed since the central and regional authorities know each other's needs. He went on to explain the need to boost production in the agriculture sector since the country is agriculture based, especially rice and paddy, which the populace deem most valuable. He also stressed that

coordinated efforts must be made to fulfill the projected output target of 800 million baskets of paddy [one basket equals approximately one bushel]. Continuing, Than Shwe explained that in order to produce 800 million baskets of paddy, plans have been made to cultivate 4 million acres of summer paddy as multi crop apart from the monsoon paddy crop and urged responsible personnel to work for the successful implementation in accordance with their respective targets for summer paddy cultivation.

The SLORC chairman said that since water supply plays a major role in achieving multi crop cultivation, construction of dams, canals, and reservoirs should be completed on time. He noted that there are also special crops which are especially suitable for certain regions in the various states and divisions and that they should be emphasized, too. For example, paddy and jute in Irrawaddy Division, palm oil and rubber in Tenasserim Division, and cotton in Magwe and Mandalay Divisions—these crops should be successfully cultivated in these regions. Moreover, he suggested that in order to raise the living standard of upper Myanmar [Burma], greenery projects for the driest nine districts have been drawn up and the Forestry and Agriculture Ministries should implement them with the cooperation of the local populace. He instructed that yearly plans should be drawn up and successfully implemented so the region will notably develop within two or three years.

Sr. Gen. Than Shwe said that regarding the industry sector, numerous plans should be made by factories and mills under various ministries to run on full capacity rather than making short-term maintenance and repairs. He stressed that although our country has changed its economic system allowing the private sector to work legally, smuggling through illegal black market routes is still in existence today. He noted that since there are opportunities to export legally, there should be no more black marketeering. He explained that allowing the export of goods from Yangon port only should be carefully scrutinized and plans should be made to allow direct and easy export of goods from other ports as well. He said ministries and regional authorities should do what needs to be done in order to eliminate black marketeering. He finally pointed out that effective action would be taken if black marketeering continues despite the necessary legal help being provided to private entrepreneurs.

The coordination meeting concluded at 1300 in the afternoon.

Government Forms Forestry Products Venture

*BK0610132693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] The Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development of the Government of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], exercising rights endowed in accordance with the 1950 Special Companies Act and with intent to expand export and sufficient local distribution

of forestry products has issued Notification No. 29/93 today forming the Union of Myanmar Forestry Products Joint Venture Corporation Limited. It is a local public joint venture corporation limited with combined assets from the Myanmar Timber Enterprise and Forestry Department of the Ministry of Forestry Affairs and the public.

Fishing Trawlers Warned To Avoid Survey Site

*BK0510150493 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] In accordance with the agreement reached between the Myanmar [Burma] Oil and Gas Enterprise [MOGE] and the Texaco Exploration Myanmar Corporation, the well site survey for test oil drilling in sites M-12, M-13, and M-14 in the Tenasserim offshore area will be carried out from 8 October 1993 to 13 November 1993. The Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries has issued a maritime notice today for all fishing trawlers to avoid the test oil drilling sites while survey work is being carried out at the sites at latitude 13 degrees 9 minutes 00.4 seconds north and longitude 96 degrees 52 minutes 41.1 seconds east, latitude 13 degrees 9 minutes 28.39 seconds north and longitude 96 degrees 51 minutes 19.66 seconds east, and latitude 13 degrees 7 minutes 48.4 seconds north and longitude 96 degrees 58 minutes 31.4 seconds east, respectively.

Trade Delegation Tours Asian Countries

*BK0710161193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] The visiting leader of the Myanmar [Burmese] trade delegation, Lieutenant General Tun Kyi, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and minister of trade, attended and delivered an address on Myanmar [Burma] Day at the 1993 International Trade Fair held in Taejon, ROK.

Lt. Gen. Tun Kyi thanked the ROK Government and the exhibition committee for inviting Myanmar to participate in the fair. He said it provided an opportunity to introduce Myanmar's exports, but the quantity was limited due to a lack of space. He mentioned that Myanmar and the ROK have had friendly relations for a long time and Korean companies have participated in investment and trade matters since the inception of a market economy in Myanmar. He explained that Myanmar is rich in natural resources while the ROK has the finance, technology, and infrastructure and noted that it will be beneficial to both parties if both countries work together. Finally, he finally thanked organizations and personnel which contributed to Myanmar's participation in the trade fair.

After a speech by Dr. (On Myung), chairman of the international trade fair organization committee, visitors viewed the Myanmar pavilion. Many types of wood and forestry products, jade, precious stones and jewelry,

lacquerware, and jade and wood sculptures were exhibited at Myanmar Pavilion at the Taejon International Trade Fair. Over 20,000 viewed the Myanmar Pavilion daily and almost all the items were sold by advance purchasing agreements.

At 1400 on 23 September, the Myanmar delegation attended a seminar on Economic Opportunities in Myanmar, jointly sponsored by the Korean Trade Promotion Corporation and the Myanmar Embassy at the (Koesh) Building in Seoul, and explained investment and economic opportunities to 150 Korean entrepreneurs.

Similarly, a seminar was held during the visit to Singapore at the World Trade Center at 0900 on 17 September and was attended by 450 Singaporean entrepreneurs. During the visit to Hong Kong, a seminar was held at the Hong Kong Convention Hall at 1530 on 27 September and was attended by over 120 Hong Kong businessmen.

Moreover, the Myanmar delegation led by Trade Minister Lt. Gen. Tun Kyi, while in Singapore, called on Mr. S. Dhanabalan, trade and industry minister, on 16 September at 1000. The delegation also called on Commodore Chee Hean Teo, minister of state for finance and communications, and held cordial and frank talks on bilateral cooperation on economic and trade affairs.

Minister Returns From Manila UN Meeting

*BK0110150593 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Education Minister Colonel Pe Thein returned to Yangon [Rangoon] by air this evening after having attended the ministerial level coordination meeting on main objectives for child development in the 1990's held in Manila on 27-29 September. The minister was welcomed at Yangon airport by National Planning and Economic Development Minister Brigadier General Abel, Communications, Post, and Telegraphs Minister U Soe Tha, Deputy Education Minister Colonel Kyi Maung, Philippines Ambassador Mr. Rosario V. Carino, Mr. (K. Ray), UNICEF program officer; directors general and chairmen from departments and boards under the education and health ministries; responsible personnel; and relatives.

The delegates—Dr. Kyaw Win, director general of health department, Ministry of Health, and U Han Tin, rector of Institute of Education—also returned to Yangon.

Bangladesh Repatriates 695 Rohingyas 2 Oct

*BK0410141693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 4 Oct 93*

[Text] In accordance with the coordinated agreement reached between the two countries on the repatriation of those who illegally left Myanmar [Burma] for Bangladesh, a delegation led by camp supervisor Mr. (Mohamed Farizgulam) from the country on the other

side transferred 695 returnees—340 males and 355 females—from 151 households to our Kanyinchaung reception center at 0930 on 2 October. The returnees were brought in by 11 motorboats.

More Rohingyas Repatriated 5 Oct

*BK0710144793 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] In accordance with the coordinated agreement reached between the two countries on repatriation of those who illegally left Myanmar [Burma] for Bangladesh, a delegation led by camp supervisor Mr. (Hajiburahman) from the country on the other side transferred 635 returnees—315 males and 320 females—from 147 households to our Kanyinchaung reception center at 0920 on 5 October. The returnees were brought in by 17 motorboats, and the Bangladesh delegation returned at 1400.

Cambodia

King Sihanouk Reportedly Has Surgery for Tumor

*HK0810092093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0909 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Beijing, Oct 8 (AFP)—King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia underwent surgery Thursday to remove a tumour near the prostate, and his health is "satisfactory," his chief of staff said here Friday. In a press statement, the official said the tumour is being analysed by Chinese doctors at the Central State Hospital of Beijing. "The operation, which was carried out on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. (0100 GMT), went well," the statement said. Sihanouk, who ascended the throne on September 24, turns 71 on October 31.

KYODO on Surgery Outcome

*OW0810114193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1110 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Beijing, Oct. 8 KYODO—Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk was in satisfactory condition Friday [8 October] after undergoing an operation to remove a tumor, an official in his cabinet said. The tumor was located to the left side of the prostate gland and outside the rectum, Truong Mealy, director of the king's cabinet, said in a statement released from the king's Beijing residence. Truong said the operation, which took place at the Central State Hospital in Beijing, went well. Doctors are now analyzing the tumor and the results of a biopsy which preceded the operation, the statement said.

Indonesia

Jakarta Seeks Lifting of UN Sanctions on Libya

*BK0810045993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia
Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 8 Oct 93*

[Text] Indonesia will continue to strive for the lifting of United Nations Security Council [UNSC] sanctions on

Libya. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said in New York that Indonesia had succeeded in having Libya's concern over the UNSC sanctions included in a communique issued by the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] foreign ministers. In addition, he exchanged views with the Libyan foreign minister, the U.S. deputy secretary of state, and other officials on efforts to lift the sanctions on Libya. According to Minister Ali Alatas, there have been positive developments in efforts to settle a dispute between Libya on the one hand and the United States, Britain, and France on the other because Libya has indicated its readiness to force two Libyan nationals accused of masterminding the bombing of an airliner to stand trial in accordance with international law.

Meanwhile, President Suharto recently instructed NAM Ambassador-at-Large Hasnan Habib to discuss with U.S. officials the lifting of the economic sanctions on Libya because the Libyan people have suffered from the sanctions.

Ugandan President Arrives for State Visit

*BK0710124993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia
Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] President Suharto and his wife, Madam Suharto, this afternoon welcomed the president of the Republic of Uganda, and his wife, Janet Kaguta Museveni, at Merdeka Palace amid a 21-gun salute state welcoming ceremony. The national anthems of the two countries were played during the official ceremony at the palace. Present were Vice President Sutrisno, National Advisory Council chief Sudomo, Parliamentary Speaker Wahono, their wives, cabinet ministers, and members of the diplomatic corps. After the ceremony, President Suharto introduced high-ranking Indonesian officials to the Ugandan president and his wife. President Suharto and his wife will host a state banquet tonight at Istana Negara [State Palace] in honor of the visiting Ugandan president and his wife.

Suharto Hosts Banquet

*BK0710155393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia
Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] In his address at the state banquet he hosted in honor of the visiting President of the Republic of Uganda at the state palace tonight, President Suharto said that currently the [words indistinct] again as a result of the situation during the post Cold War period. The end of the East-West tension has paved the way for international peace and disarmament. According to the head of state, despite the prevailing situation, the world is not totally at peace. There is still a long way to go before the world can be turned into a peaceful, just, and secure place. In such a situation, leaders of the Non-aligned Movement should come forward to express their opinions. President Suharto said the (?priority) rests on economic cooperation among the developing nations that have been suppressed.

Taking the opportunity, the head of state expressed Indonesia's willingness to extend its expertise to Uganda on development, family planning, agriculture, health, and education. The exchange of gifts between the two leaders preceded tonight's banquet.

Oil Exports Drop Due to Domestic Demand

BK0710101193 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 14 Sep 93 p 14

[Summary] Ida Bagus Sujana, Minister of Mines and Energy, said Indonesia crude oil exports, which fell by 11.4 percent in 1992/1993, will most likely continue to decline this fiscal year due to increases in the domestic utilization of fuel. However, he said the government's revenues from the oil and gas sector are expected to reach its target because oil prices are likely to remain above US\$18 a barrel, a price level used by the government as a reference in calculating its revenues. Sujana said that Indonesia's crude oil (including condensate) production, which fell about four percent from 573.4 million barrels in 1991/92 to 549.98 million barrels last fiscal year, is expected to increase slightly to 558 million barrels this fiscal year. But Indonesia's crude oil exports will continue declining by 3.16 percent to 275 million barrels this fiscal year after falling by 11.4 percent to 284 million barrels last fiscal year from 320.52 million barrels in 1991/92, he said. The minister said the domestic use of oil fuel increased by 10.3 percent from 229.39 million barrels in 1991/92 to 253.11 million barrels in 1992/93 and will likely increase slightly to 253.57 million barrels this fiscal year.

Philippines

Government-NDF Peace Talks Face Obstacle

BK0710113993 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] The exploratory talks between the government and the National Democratic Front [NDF] may not take place this month due to the communists' insistence that it not be based on the Philippine Constitution. Howard Dee, chief government negotiator of the peace talks with the NDF, says the peace talks will be worthless if they are not based on the constitution. If the government agrees to the conditions laid down by the NDF, the peace talks would be of no value because it was beyond the law of the land. It is still uncertain when this issue will be finally resolved. The peace talks are scheduled to start next week in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Government Rejects NDF's Demands

BK0810053793 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Malacanang has rejected demands of the National Democratic Front [NDF] that President Fidel Ramos withdraws Executive Order No. 125, which provides that

the peace process be undertaken under the rule of law and in accordance with constitutional processes.

In a statement last 3 September, the NDF National Council demanded that the Executive Order No. 125 NDF, mistakenly called it a memorandum order, be withdrawn. This memorandum imposes the GRP or Government of the Philippines Constitution as the framework for peace talks. This is totally unacceptable to the NDF, the NDF statement signed by former priest Luis Jalandoni said. The response of Howard Dee, chairman of the government panel for peace talks with the CPP-NPA-NDF [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front], released by Press Secretary Jesus Sison, made clear that the president cannot accede to the NDF's demands. If the GRP panel agrees during negotiations to adopt a reform, say an electoral reform, and if this requires legislation, obviously the president will have to follow the rule of law and submit his reform to Congress for new legislation. If a specific reform can be undertaken by executive fiat under rule of law, then the president can do so, Dee said. Obviously, Dee said, the president cannot undertake such reforms by executive fiat nor the Congress by way of legislation. Amendments to the Philippine Constitution can only be undertaken by processes provided for in the charter, he added. The constitutional process invoked by the executive order, Dee explained, anticipates such an eventuality. The order defines the approach and administrative structure for the government's comprehensive peace efforts. It states: The primary objective of government is the attainment of a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace under the rule of law and in accordance with constitutional processes.

The NDF maintains that the order violates the joint declaration signed at the Hague on 1 September last year, rendering impossible the holding of a second round of exploratory talks. The Dee statement said by accepting constitutional reforms into the substantive agenda, the government has in principle agreed to the possibility of constitutional amendment. On the other hand, the NDF, by wanting to undertake constitutional reforms on the present Philippine Constitution, impliedly accepts our need to follow constitutional processes in order to undertake these reforms, but without accepting it as a framework and without recognizing it as a precondition. Dee said that if the government does not adhere to the rule of law and constitutional process, then the agreements in the peace talks would not be binding and the peace talks would become a farce. The fact that we follow the rule of law and constitutional process is a guarantee to the CPP-NPA-NDF of the government's capability to legally enforce a peace accord, he added.

Earlier the government accepted the NDF demands that the talks be held in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, in Vietnam. It urged the NDF to now proceed with the long delayed talks.

Kidnap Gang Joins Forces with NPA Hit Squad

BK0710112993 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Senator Maceda today revealed that the notorious kidnap-for-ransom gang known as the Red Scorpion Group [RSG] has already reorganized and joined forces with the Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB—hit squad of the New People's Army (NPA)]. According to Maceda, the third leader of the RSG known as "Intal" is responsible for the reorganization of the gang. Intal is under the custody of government authorities but is being given special privileges. This is why he is able to coordinate with the ABB. Maceda said that the gang has a list of Filipino-Chinese victims, and that he obtained his information from some NPA leaders.

Ramos Calls for Expanded Regional Trade

BK0710060993 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] President Ramos has called for expanded trade in the adoption of liberal trade practices. This is in support of retail associations within the Asia-Pacific region. He also underscored the role of retailing as a catalyst of trade and production. The chief executive keynoted the opening of the Sixth Asian Retailers' Convention and Exhibition at the Philippine International Convention Center.

Ramos Seeks Special Congress Session on Economy

BK0710060593 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] President Ramos is seeking a special session of Congress to act on key economic measures. He is expected to meet with Senate President Edgardo Angara and House Speaker Jose De Venecia on the matter. Yesterday the president presented to house leaders a package of tax measures under the government's resource mobilization program. Among those approved for consideration by the house was the refinement of the value added tax in an increase in government dividend from GOC's or government-owned corporations. During the meeting de Venecia also assured the president that there will be no cut in the proposed 362 billion peso national budget for 1994.

Ramos Greets Ugandan President on Stopover

BK0710122993 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has personally invited President Fidel Ramos to visit his country during their meeting at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport [NAIA]. Museveni made a one-hour stopover at NAIA en route to Indonesia. The Philippine President thanked Museveni for the invitation. The two heads of state agreed to improve diplomatic relations.

Taiwanese Illegally Recruiting Filipino Fishermen

BK0710124593 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] The Department of Labor and Employment [DOLE], Philippine Overseas Employment Administration and the Philippine Coast Guard has admitted that there is continuing illegal recruitment of Filipino fishermen by Taiwanese nationals of which the government is powerless to stop. During the hearing conducted a while ago by the Senate Committee on Labor, DOLE Secretary Nieves Confessor said 500 Filipino fishermen have been recruited to work on Taiwanese fishing boats. The recruitment was carried out in Cagayan Province. The Coast Guard has admitted that they know about the activity but that they cannot do anything about it because of limited boats. According to Confessor, the problem will only be solved if the Taiwanese Government will help stop the illegal activity.

Thailand

Chuan Meets SRV Deputy Premier in New York

BK0710092393 Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese 7 Oct 93 p 8

[Text] Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Chuan Likphai in New York. During the meeting, Phan Van Khai asked for the speedy establishment of a Vietnamese consulate general in Khon Kaen Province. The Foreign Ministry will submit this proposal to the Cabinet for consideration.

Government Spokesman Aphisit Wetchachiwa, speaking to Thai reporters accompanying the prime minister on his visit to the United States and the United Kingdom, reported that Vietnamese Vice Prime Minister Phan Van Khai called on Prime Minister Chuan Likphai at 0930 on 6 October in New York. The Vietnamese vice prime minister is attending the 48th UN General Assembly.

Aphisit said that during the meeting, the Vietnamese deputy prime minister asked for the establishment of a Vietnamese consulate general in Khon Kaen Province. Aphisit said that the Foreign Ministry is considering this issue and will submit it to the Cabinet for approval soon. There has been progress settling certain problems between the two countries, such as the territorial water issue.

The government spokesman said that the prime minister and the Vietnamese vice prime minister are pleased with the progress made in bilateral relations between the two countries. The Cambodian problem remains, however, as the two sides are concerned over the situation there. Nevertheless, the two countries will try to push for restoring peace in that country.

The Vietnamese deputy prime minister invited Prime Minister Chuan to visit Vietnam. The Thai prime minister also extended an invitation to the Vietnamese minister to visit Thailand, and the two sides will find an appropriate time to exchange the visits.

Vietnamese Official Notes Regional Concerns

*BK0810013393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
8 Oct 93 p 8*

[Text] Vietnam will discuss the problems of border demarcation and Vietnamese settlers with Cambodia when the new Cambodian government is formed, Vietnamese Deputy Chairman of the International Relations Commission Do Van Tai said yesterday.

"Vietnam's position is to settle every conflict by peaceful means," he said during the discussion on "Vietnamese Foreign Policy in Southeast Asia Region" which was jointly organised by Chulalongkon University's Institute of Asian Studies and Germany's Friedric Ebert-Stiftung Foundation.

The leaders of Vietnam and Cambodia realise the importance of the continuous development of their traditional ties and the need to try to build a stronger friendship based on the principles of mutual respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-use of force, he said.

Mr Do Van Tai, speaking through his interpreter, was responding to questions about Vietnam's method to settle future problems with neighbouring countries, including China and Laos. He pointed out that Vietnam continues to maintain and develop a friendly and co-operative relation of mutual assistance with China and Laos on the basis of independence, self-determination, equality and mutual benefit.

Vietnam's current concern, he continued, focuses on the expansion of economic cooperation and regional security which does not always mean military force but rather economic stability.

"Economic development will bring about stability as well as political and security development," said Mr Do Van Tai. He did not answer directly on Vietnam's position towards Thailand's proposal to invite China and Burma into the Mekong Committee to discuss the use of the Mekong River.

"Our position is that the 'upper' countries should pay attention to the 'lower' countries on the basis of equality. The concerned countries must meet very soon to settle this problem," he said.

Vietnam, he said, has always proposed a peaceful solution to the conflict over the ownership of the Spratly and Paracel islands which have been claimed by several Southeast Asian nations including China and Vietnam.

The Vietnamese Communist Party General Secretary's visit to Singapore at present and to Thailand in the

coming days reflect Vietnam's interest in consolidating and strengthening its relations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Mr Do Van Tai said.

Consideration must be made by both sides, he added, to find appropriate and efficient forms of cooperation.

Government Opposes 'All' Nuclear Tests

*BK0810013193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8
Oct 93 p A2*

[Text] THE Foreign Ministry yesterday reiterated the government's opposition to all nuclear testing, but stopped short of specifically commenting on the underground detonation of nuclear device by China in Xinjiang province on Tuesday.

"As a country that is opposed to all forms of nuclear tests, we consider nuclear tests a threat to the environment," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek. China's 39th nuclear test at Lop Nor desert site has attracted strong international criticism as a blow to hopes for a comprehensive nuclear test ban.

The detonation was carried out in defiance of the United States' call for a 15-month moratorium on tests. Other nuclear powers, Britain, France and Russia called the test regrettable and a setback to the moratorium. The Chinese have defended the test by comparing their nuclear capabilities with the programmes of Russia the United States, Britain and France, which they say are far more advanced.

Government Decision To Join NAM Defended

*BK0810014393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
8 Oct 93 p 6*

[Text] Thailand's participation in the Non-aligned Movement [NAM] will not affect its relations with the United States nor deprive the country of the right to hold joint military exercises with non-member nations, government officials said yesterday.

Senior officials including Deputy Prime Minister Banyat Bantaththan, National Security Council Secretary-General Charan Kunlawanit and Information Department Director-General Sakthip Krairoek rejected the Opposition claims that Thailand would lose its friendship and some benefits from certain countries after becoming a member of NAM. Opposition leaders on Wednesday claimed Thailand would no longer be able to hold joint military exercises with the United States and the country was forging connections with some NAM member states which have been involved in terrorism.

Mr Sakthip said he did not want to criticise the Opposition comments about NAM, but he had to clarify that the holding of joint military exercises with the US was the legal right of Thailand and had nothing to do with joining the Third World forum. He said NAM founding members such as India and Indonesia had always held joint military exercises with the US and Australia. He

said the only limitation imposed by NAM was that member states could not have foreign military bases on their territory. Thailand does not have any foreign military bases.

Mr Sakthip said membership of NAM would provide Thailand with another forum to air its opinions apart from ASEAN and the United Nations.

Mr Banyat said the Government had a "different perspective" from the Opposition in applying for NAM membership as it viewed the group as giving heavy emphasis to trade and economic issues. This will benefit Thailand. Some NAM member countries already have established trade relations with Thailand, he said.

Mr Banyat said the world situation had changed and Thailand's participation in NAM should not be seen as an attempt to change its position but rather to confirm its neutrality. He said one of the group's objectives was to promote global peace.

Mr Banyat admitted Thailand may experience some difficulties if the group made any political resolutions but this may not happen as NAM has focused more of late on economic development and cooperation rather than turning the forum into a world political stage.

Gen Charan said it should be no surprise Thailand had joined NAM now the world has changed politically and economically. Membership of NAM also does not mean Thailand has to cut relations with non-member countries such as the US he said.

Gen Charan played down any negative impact on Thai-US relations at a time when Washington is boycotting Libya after that country, a NAM member, refused to send two suspects in the bombing of a Pan-Am aircraft over Lockerbie in 1988 for trial in Scotland. He said Thailand did not support the production of chemical and biological weapons, but that did not mean it would withdraw its friendship from Libya. He said the Government was already prepared to evacuate about 20,000 Thai workers from Libya if the US went ahead and launched an attack on the Middle Eastern country.

Government Revenue Rises in Past 10 Months

*BK0710102193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
4 Oct 93 p 21*

[Summary] Total government revenue in the first 10 months of fiscal year 1993, which ended in September, was 489,613.60 million baht—487,410 million baht was collected in fiscal year 1993, whereas 2,203.60 million baht was rolled over from the previous fiscal year. A total of 67,304.7 million baht more was collected in fiscal year 1993 compared with that collected in the previous fiscal year. Expenses were 472,863.60 million baht, of which 391,096.40 million baht were spent in fiscal year 1993, up 59,384.80 million baht, or 17.9 percent, on the figure for the previous year.

As of 31 August this year, the government had debts totalling 570,799.19 million baht. Of that amount, 273,506.12 million baht were local loans, the rest coming from abroad. Government enterprise sector revenues from the beginning of the fiscal year to 31 August were 21,525.80 million baht.

Revenues from the Customs Department were 96,282.60 million baht. The Excise Department yielded revenues of 116,215.51 million baht while the Revenue Department collected 280,958.89 million baht.

Vietnam

Phan Van Khai Visits IMF, World Bank in U.S.

BK0710111593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] According to a VNA correspondent in New York, while in Washington D.C to attend the 48th UN General Assembly, Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai on 4 October visited the head offices of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai highly appraised the assistance of the IMF and the World Bank, as well as other international financial organizations in Vietnam's renovation process. He underscored those factors leading to the success of the renovation and at the same time pointed out the remaining difficulties now facing Vietnam, particularly those concerning infrastructure. He also appealed to these financial organizations for more assistance.

Tran Quang Co Meets Rockefeller Delegation

*BK0710112193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] A high-level American trade delegation arrived in Hanoi on Wednesday for a three-day visit to investigate Vietnam's infrastructural need and its economic renovation policy.

The 17-member American trade delegation, headed by David Rockefeller, told the Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co that they came to learn from Vietnam.

Le Duc Anh Receives Delegation

BK0710151593 Hanoi VNA in English 1452 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 7—President Le Duc Anh received at the presidential palace here this afternoon David Rockefeller, honorary president, and Peter G. Peterson, president, of the US Council on Foreign Relations, who are leading a business delegation for a visit to Vietnam.

Mr. Rockefeller expressed his pleasure to visit Vietnam where he could see with his own eyes Vietnam's important changes in its present renovation process. He said this visit constituted an opportunity for US businessmen to inquire into Vietnam's demands and to discuss measures to promote cooperation with Vietnam in economy, infrastructural construction and other fields.

President Le Duc Anh informed the US guests of the Vietnamese people's achievements in the renovation process and in the implementation of an open, diversified foreign policy towards all countries in Southeast Asia and in the world. He reaffirmed Vietnam's wish to be friends with all countries, for mutual assistance, cooperation, peace, stability and development in the world.

'Efforts of the leadership of Vietnam and the US will help remove vestiges of war and look to the future', President Le Duc Anh said, adding that the Vietnamese people are step by step overcoming difficulties to build an independent, free, democratic, strong, prosperous and civilized country. He renewed the Vietnamese people's determinations to promote the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

With the party general secretary at the reception was acting Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co.

Thai Prime Minister Invites Do Muoi for Visit

*BK0710112593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Thai officials and people are looking forward to the upcoming official visit to their country by Vietnamese Party General Secretary Do Muoi, Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai told Vice Prime Minister Phan Van Khai on Tuesday in Bangkok.

Mr. Khai stopped over in Bangkok on the way home from the 48th session of the UN General Assembly.

The Thai Prime Minister hoped that the visit will mark a historic turning point in the Vietnam-Thailand relations.

Do Muoi 7 Oct Activities in Singapore Reported

BK0710145793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Station correspondent Dao Nguyen's telephone report with portion recorded on General Secretary Do Muoi's 7 October activities in Singapore]

[Text] Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi and other comrades accompanying him on 7 October toured the Changi International Airport, which was small in size in 1960. To date, all things considered, this international airport ranks first in the world thanks to investment and development. In 1992, the airport contributed to the movement of more than 18 million passengers as well as with the shipment of more than 19 million tonnes of

goods. At present, a total of 62 international airlines are exploiting and utilizing the Changi International Airport.

At noon, Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong gave a reception in honor of Comrade General Secretary and other comrades accompanying him. In the afternoon, Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi called on and talked with cadres at the Vietnamese Embassy in Singapore.

Also this afternoon, Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi visited Sentosa Island, which is a well-known tourist attraction in Singapore. While there, the comrade general secretary toured the Historic Relics Museum and the Underwater World Exhibition Center. On this occasion, Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi granted an interview to a number of foreign journalists. Answering a question raised by a Thai journalist concerning the impressions of his Singapore visit, Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi said:

[Begin Do Muoi recording] I would say that foreign tourists from different parts of the world cannot help coming to visit Singapore and that as more and more tourists come, Singapore will become richer and richer and the life of its people become happier and happier. I really want to learn from the experiences gained by Singapore and apply them to Vietnam. [end Do Muoi recording]

Commentary on Khmer Rouge Rejection of Proposal

*BK0710140793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Foreign reports say the Khmer Rouge has rejected the new Cambodian Government's proposal on opening their controlled area. Here is our comment on this event.

With the withdrawal of the UN peacekeepers from Cambodia, the approval of the new Constitution of the country, and the enthronement of the Sihanouk as the king of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge has further been isolated. It was the Khmer Rouge that killed millions of Cambodians and caused the genocide in the country. It was also the only faction which refused to abide by the Paris agreement on Cambodia. However, the trend for national reconciliation, peace, and development has won in Cambodia. This has further weakened the Khmer Rouge. In recent weeks, as many as 1,200 to 2,000 Khmer Rouge troops crossed over to the government Army. Division 616 of the Khmer Rouge, stationed in northern Cambodia, and a number of [word indistinct] officers of Regiment 4 of that division have reported themselves to the government. In recent period, the Cambodian Government Army has attacked Khmer Rouge bases along Cambodian border, driving them out of their positions which further panicked them. The second premier of the new Cambodian Government, Mr.

Hun Sen, recently stated in Phnom Penh following the end of the assembly meeting, that the Constitution has been rectified, and King Sihanouk was enthroned. Therefore, the Khmer Rouge do not accept as a faction in the former National Supreme Council of Cambodia, will become an outlaw faction [sentence as heard]. The First Premier Prince Ranariddh said at the UN General Assembly that the new Cambodian Government is ready to accept the Khmer Rouge to take part in the Royal Army and the Royal Government in the future as advisors with condition that they have to dissolve their Army and return their controlled area to the national territory of the unified Cambodia.

The door is open for the Khmer Rouge, but it has rejected it. This means that they themselves close the door for peace and national reconciliation. For this very reason, on 5 October the head of state King Sihanouk declared that the new government in Cambodia will not have advisors from the Khmer Rouge faction.

Commentary on Improved Relations With IMF

*BK0710135393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] International Monetary Fund [IMF] consultant in Vietnam Mr. (Piet Stoller) said on Tuesday that IMF Managing Director Michael Camdessus will make an official visit to Vietnam starting on 10 October. The visit is made following Vietnam's clearance of \$140 million arrears to the IMF. What is the significance of the visit? Our radio editor has the following opinion.

The visit will show that at present, Vietnam has already integrated into the international financial community. Vietnam's cooperation and activities in the international finance have been recognized. As Mr. (Piet Stoller) said, the visit is a signal of support to the Vietnam renovation process and resumption of lending to Vietnam.

The fact is that in recent period, international financial organizations have paid special attention to their cooperation with Vietnam. The World Bank, the Asia Development Bank, and the IMF have some projects in cooperation with Vietnam. World Bank has just decided to grant Vietnam three [word indistinct] worth \$320 million this year for infrastructure construction and socioeconomic projects. At the meeting in Washington on 27 September, the group has supported Vietnam, committed to contribute \$55 million to Vietnam, together with \$85 million of bridging loan syndicated by the French Foreign Trade Bank in close cooperation with Asian Bank of Japan, and 16 commercial banks from France, Australia, Germany, Thailand, Britain, Singapore, and Malaysia to help Vietnam clear its arrears to the IMF.

Together with this event, the Managing Board of IMF on 4 October met and decided to approve the first \$213 million loan to Vietnam, and said that Vietnam has

cleared all its pending arrears. Now Vietnam [words indistinct] its contribution. The World Bank and Asia Development Bank next month will also sign an agreement on more than \$400 million loan to Vietnam for infrastructure and education works.

Evidently, the relations between Vietnam and international financial organizations have entered into a new stage. This will certainly contribute to promoting the cause of renovation in Vietnam. For these positive relations, Vietnam has pursued a corresponding policy of making friends with all countries.

Another important factor attributed to it is the achievement in the renovation process and economic reform. At the meeting with Vietnamese [State Bank] General Governor Cao Sy Kiem in Washington in September, the IMF general director highly appreciated Vietnam's achievement in its renovation and pledged to give Vietnam a stronger financial support to continue its economic reform.

Exports Record Solid Growth; Imports Up

*BK0710105193 Hanoi VNA in English 0539 GMT 3
Oct 93*

[Text] Exports increased 14 percent over the first nine months of this year, but imports grew by more than doubling this amount.

The export value was estimated at 2 billion USD representing 70 percent of the yearly plan.

Most of the major hard currency earners were exported at a fairly high rate compared with annual plans: crude oil (70 percent), rice (70 percent), aquatic products (72 percent), groundnuts (75 percent), textile and garments (76 percent), coffee (85 percent).

The import value reached 2.1 billion US dollars following growth of 34 percent, representing 75 percent of the yearly plan.

Many main import items have shown higher rates than the corresponding period last year. For example, petrol and building steel increased 17 percent and 83 percent respectively. The market increase is largely due to the development of more efficient domestic production techniques, higher product quality and better management structures. The surge is also attributed to more liberal goods exchange policies at home and abroad, a more relaxed source of foreign currency and the establishment of new markets and trade partners.

As a result of these achievements, market prices remain stable. Total sales in the period were 60,000 billion dong (roughly 6 billion US dollars), up by about 15 percent over the whole year of 1992.

The supply of essential goods has met consumption demand. The retail sale index rose 0.55 percent-0.65 percent in the past nine months.

Exporters are trying to obtain nearly one billion US dollars in the remaining months so as to achieve the target of 2.8 billion US dollars worth of exports this year.

Foreign Investment Lack in Central Region Noted

BK0610134593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 6 Oct 93

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Discussing foreign investment in Vietnam, the HANOI MOI carried an article entitled "Foreign Investment, the Contracts and the Real Capital". The article revealed that by July 1993, the Vietnamese Administration approved 556 projects with a total investment of \$4.626 billion. The number of licenses issued in 1992 increased by 5.2 fold compared to 1988 when the investment law was first introduced, while the increase is about eight fold in 1993.

Generally speaking, the later projects appear to be more serious and larger than the earlier ones. However, geographically, the investment allocation is not in balance, and the central region provinces have been almost neglected. The localities which had received a large inflow of foreign investment were also the regions with better economic potential and higher living standards. These were Ho Chi Minh City with 44 percent of the projects, Hanoi with 14.5 percent, Haiphong 11.3 percent, Dong Nai 10.5 percent, and Ba Ria Vung Tau 5.6 percent.

The central region is not deficient in communications, transportation, natural resources, and manpower. It is absurd that the region has so far failed to attract foreign investors. Another absurd fact is the inability of Hanoi to obtain large contracts which would bring about improvements to the economy of the capital. The implementation of the relatively larger projects in Hanoi has usually been sluggish and delayed by a great number of disputes.

Inflation, Agricultural, Industrial Output Noted

BK0710151993 Hanoi VNA in English 1409 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 7—1993 may be the first time when Vietnam can claim an inflation rate below the double digit level that has persisted since 1975.

Prices increased 4.3 in the first nine months of 1993 while the inflation rate allowed for the whole year is 15, announced Government Office Director Le Xuan Trinh on Wednesday.

The minister said a main feature of this year was the good performance of agriculture despite droughts and floods in different regions. Weather permitting, food output may reach a total of 24 million tonnes, the same amount as was produced in 1992.

Industrial output, Trinh said during a regular press briefing, was up 12.3 of the first nine months compared with the corresponding period last year.

The export and import values were estimated at 2 billion USD [United States dollars] and 2.2 billion USD, up by 13 percent and 31 percent over the same period last year, respectively.

At the same time 180 foreign invested projects were licensed, with a combined capital of 1.9 billion USD, the minister said.

During the remaining months the government will concentrate on increasing revenues, putting into effect the new wage system, strengthening control over import-export activities, setting up a fund for the stabilisation of prices and establishing a more reasonable exchange rate, the minister added.

Communique on Assembly Standing Committee Meeting

BK0710134393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Communique of the National Assembly Standing Committee"]

[Text] The National Assembly Standing Committee met from 15 September-4 October under the chairmanship of Nong Duc Manh.

Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh attended this meeting.

1. After examining the preparations for the 4th session of the Ninth National Assembly, which included an agenda and duration of the session and a number of draft laws in the law-building program for 1993, the Standing Committee made plans to hold the fourth National Assembly session in early December 1993. At the same time, it urged the government and various organs concerned to make urgent preparations in all aspects for this session. In addition, they are also implored to study and rectify a number of draft laws to be presented to the National Assembly for consideration at its fourth session and other sessions in the period ahead.

2. The National Assembly Standing Committee passed a regulation on private medical practice. This is to ensure medical safety, create favorable conditions for the people to have medical examinations and treatment, and to unify management over private medical practice and ensure the medical profession is guided by law.

3. The National Assembly Standing Committee passed regulations on cooperation in administrating through organizations the various local people's courts, various military tribunals at the military region and corresponding levels, and regional military tribunals. It also ratified:

—A namelist of members of a council set up to recruit judges for the Supreme People's Court and the Central Military Tribune.

—A namelist of members of a council set up to recruit judges for people's courts in provinces and cities under the central authority as well as judges for military region and correspondent-level military tribunals, and for regional military tribunals.

—A namelist of some judges selected from the Supreme People's Court to act as members of the Board of Judges of the Supreme People's Court.

4. The National Assembly Standing Committee also heard a government representative report on the enforcement of the land law and the publishing law already passed by the National Assembly at the recent third session.

The National Assembly Standing Committee took note of the government's past efforts and performance and asked that it maintain close guidance for things that must be continued to be done on the enforcement of those two laws.

5. The National Assembly Standing Committee spent time examining the situation regarding efforts to solve the problems mentioned in the letters of complaints or denunciations from citizens to the National Assembly on various issues, including housing.

The National Assembly Standing Committee requests that the government and authoritative sectors and echelons study ways to effectively solve the problems mentioned in various complaints and the denunciations of citizens and to promulgate documents with specific stipulations on some urgent problems to be done in this respect.

6. The National Assembly Standing Committee heard a government representative report and give his views on national defense and the security situation in the past. The Standing Committee welcomed the efforts of the various sectors and echelons in this area and asked them to further enhance their sense of responsibility so as to consolidate national defense and security.

7. The National Assembly Standing Committee heard the government report on the world situation and the government's past foreign relations activities. It also organized an exchange of views on how to renovate the National Assembly's foreign relations activities so as to effectively serve the renovation process of our country and support the party and state's wide-open foreign relations policy, which advocates Vietnam's wishes to befriend all nations in the world community for peace, independence, and development.

8. The National Assembly Standing Committee heard a report on and welcomed the results of the official visit of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia to Vietnam from 23-25 August 1993. The visit, which was led by its co-prime ministers, Samdech Kromluong

Norodom Ranariddh and His Excellency Hun Sen, marked a new development in the relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Cambodia.

9. The National Assembly Standing Committee heard a report on the study and the compiling of the first volume of a book on the history of the Vietnamese National Assembly. It welcomed the high sense of responsibility of the staff in charge of the task and the positive contributions of a number of veteran revolutionary cadres and historians. The National Assembly Standing Committee discussed with and asked the staff compiling the book to continue its study to perfect this important history book about our National Assembly.

Government Establishes Reform Consultation Team

BK0710093193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] To rally more intelligence for better objective opinions in preparing economic and administration reform decisions, on 5 October the prime minister issued a decision to form a team of consultation specialists for economic and administration reform. The group is called the Reform Consultation Team. It consists of scientists, managers, and businessmen from government and nongovernment mechanisms. It also includes some overseas Vietnamese intellectuals who have accepted the prime minister's invitation to work on a nonregular basis.

News Conference on Government Planning Reported

BK0710113193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 6 October in Hanoi, Minister Le Xuan Trinh, director of the Government Office, held a press conference to review the socioeconomic situation in the last nine months and to inform about the government's recent activities and programs of action until the end of 1993.

He stated that in the last nine months, national agricultural production continued to develop satisfactorily. Food production reached 10.3 million tons with an estimated total annual production of 24.5 million tons. Industrial production increased 12.3 percent compared to the same period last year, including an increase of about 14.5 percent in electricity, coal, iron sheet weaving, and so forth.

Infrastructure investment accounted for 7,300 billion dong, reaching 68 percent of the annual plan. Foreign investment in the last nine months consisted of 180 projects with a total capital of \$1.9 billion.

The export volume is estimated to be \$2 billion, an increase of 13 percent from the same period last year. The import volume reached \$2.2 billion, an increase of 31 percent from the same period last year. In the last

nine months, the market price was fairly stable with an average monthly increase of 0.5 percent.

In the remaining months of 1993, the government will perform several urgent tasks, namely rechecking planning targets in each sector to ensure a collection of 4,000 billion dong for the 1993 national budget, reviewing the execution of a new wage policy and the import-export situation to ensure an achievement of more than \$3 billion in export, and studying measures to deal with small scale trading across the southwestern border as suggested by local authorities. It will urgently form a national fund for price stabilization to provide subsidies for disadvantaged products, especially export items.

The government will set up reasonable exchange rates between the Vietnamese dong and foreign currencies, first of all with the U.S. dollar to encourage export. It will conduct checks on registration of business enterprises to ensure the correct implementation of government Decree No. 388 HDBT.

Especially, all ministries, sectors, and localities must apply stricter measures in carrying out decision No. 114 TTG of the prime minister on fighting corruption and smuggling, first of all, the state organs entrusted with direct duties to deal with these tasks such as the Ministry of Interior, Customs Service, Market Control Central Commission, and the State Inspection Service. They must quickly rearrange their staffs, determinedly deal with units and individuals who are proven to have violated the law, and overcome loopholes in management.

Vu Oanh Attends Hoa Binh Agriculture Conference

BK0710110993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] The Hoa Binh provincial people's council, ninth tenure, recently held its ninth conference. Comrade Vu Oanh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, attended.

Together with the local National Assembly delegation and representatives of the provincial people's council, the comrade inspected, reviewed, and evaluated implementation of Resolution 22 of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, and other resolutions of the provincial party committee and people's council on agricultural promotion.

The Hoa Binh provincial people's council has realised the policy of changing the crop pattern in an effort to fight hunger and poverty. Hoa Binh Province has issued a resolution by which it will not carry out grain production under any form in order to protect forests and forestry land. It will step up planting of fruit trees and industry crops and will vigorously develop animal and poultry breeding, maritime, and indigenous products

Le Phuoc Tho Views Cadre-Related Work

Part One

BK0710143393 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 15 Sep 93 p 3

[“Part one” of article by Le Phuoc Tho entitled: “Effect an Important Change in Cadre-Related Work in The New Situation”]

[Text] In compliance with the party Central Committee's Third Plenum resolution, the party Central Committee Organizational Department has successively held three meetings to discuss the subject of cadre-related work in the new situation. They were namely a meeting of party committee secretaries of central Vietnam and the Central Highlands provinces; a meeting of the organizational section chiefs and deputy chiefs of various provincial and city party committees nationwide; and a meeting of leading key cadres, cadres in charge of organizational affairs of various party-and-youth union cadre affairs sections, and cadres from the party committees of cadre affairs sections belonging to various sectors under the central authority.

With a high sense of responsibility and by looking squarely at the truth in accordance with renovative concepts, delegates from various localities and sectors under the central authority pointed at their many good experiences in cadre-related work. They clearly analyzed the actual situation that led to the prolonged weakness of cadre-related work. All the delegates affirmed: In party building, especially at this turn of history, the contingent of cadres and cadre-related work are of paramount significance. The roles they play can influence i.e. boost or cause snags to the renovation process.

In reality, it is easily noticeable that while vigorously shifting to the multisectoral economy, operating in accordance with the market system under state management and broadening foreign economic relations, the contingent of cadres, especially leading and management cadres, has developed its political acumen and ability to gradually adjust themselves to the new system. Many management cadres of state-run business establishments have matured and overcome countless ordeals. They have succeeded in production and business and have made their ever-greater contributions to the state budget. Much progress has been noted in the operating guidance provided by various sectors and echelons from the central down to the grass-roots levels. More and more new factors have developed. The growing contingent of cadres has contributed to renovating the various systems and policies and has gained initial successes in various areas. They have overcome the socioeconomic crisis by another step, maintained political stability, and helped the renovation process develop in the right direction along the socialist path.

In view of the current complex changing world and as the country is shifting to the market system and broadening its foreign economic relations, not a few leading and

management cadres of various echelons have displayed their weaknesses, including weaknesses in quality and ability. In fact, they have failed to meet requirements arising from the renovation process.

a. Ethically, a number of them have violated their unit's disciplinary code. They are bureaucratic and have stayed aloof from the masses. Individualism, departmentalism, localism, jealousy over other people's positions, paternalism, and arbitrariness have resulted in disunity. This has been serious and lingering, and in certain cases has affected the internal ranks. Recent efforts by some units and localities to carry out criticism and self-criticism in accordance with the party Central Committee Secretariat's Directive 14 have produced poor results.

The militancy of a segment of cadres has declined. The ideological thinking of cadres has been unsteady and has faded. A number of them are opportunists and are corrupt. They have engaged in smuggling activities, have misappropriated or squandered away public assets, and have accumulated their wealth in illegitimate ways. In certain areas, the scourge of corruption and smuggling is severe and protracted. This is a source of concern for the ruling party. What will happen if the scourge of corruption cannot be thwarted?

b. After facing the challenging reality, many cadres have gradually adjusted themselves to the new system. Confusion is, however, unavoidable as we are moving from a subsidy-based management system to a market system under an open-door policy. A number of incompetent cadres are no longer able to undertake their duties, especially when it comes to dealing with new problems, namely the negative phenomena or the down side of the market system. Therefore, a number of them, who were once well known for their achievements under the old management system, have become unfit for and confused when working under the new market system. This has caused production and business losses. Some units have been forced out of business because of their inappropriateness and operating inefficiency.

According to the analyses of many delegates at a meeting of a bloc of the central-level organs the lack of knowledge and wisdom were the main causes leading to loopholes, shortcomings, and delays in institutionalizing various regulations of the state in certain areas. There are indications that empiricism is being favored by a number of key cadres. They have paid less attention to theory, improving their ability and knowledge, especially their skills on economic and law management under the market system. Meanwhile, despite their efforts to carry out renovation, other cadres, though armed with college degrees, have displayed a limited knowledge of the realities because they failed to associate themselves closely with real life. In reality, there is still a gap of knowledge between those with college degrees and those with real talent.

Obviously, the structure of echelons of our key cadres at present experiences a lack of balancing and uniformity.

Most of the leading cadres at the central level and in localities who participated in the two wars of resistance will retire in 1995. As a result, there is a shortage of senior cadres in provinces and municipalities, especially those who are capable of handling foreign trade, legal industrial management, and production and business activities. Moreover, the distribution of scientific-technological cadres was irrational because most of them worked only in cities while only a very few or none at all were assigned to the rural areas. It can be said that we have not optimally exploited our intellectuals. There is also an imbalance in the distribution of cadres in all localities and sectors, especially the distribution of women and ethnic minority cadres. One may ask why we experience this imbalance when in fact we have a large contingent of cadres?

There are several factors to this question:

First, some comrades commented that we have a short-sighted view in formulating lines and policies related to cadres and poor planning in cadre-related work in the new situation. Due to the lack of a perspective strategy, we failed to formulate a correct plan and orientation to train capable cadres to replace those who are going to retire. This shortcoming is an important factor causing inefficiency and failure in the replacement of leading and management cadres. In many localities the new cadres who replace the old ones are no better than the former in terms of capability and efficiency. Worse still is that in some places, poor and incompetent cadres who were denounced by the people have not been promptly replaced.

Second, we have not been able to design a good recruiting system, effectively use cadres, and concretize the standard of leading cadres responsible for the management, production, and business activities in conformity with the new mechanism. In many localities, the appraisal of cadres has been carried out in accordance with the old concept and is dependent on a few persons with authority. We also experienced a lack of consistency in the organization of cadres. Sometimes we stressed class category and past performance, while at times we focused on age, educational background, and so forth.

Third, our policy on cadres has not caught up with development of the new mechanism. In many localities, obligation and interest were vaguely defined while improper incentive were given to capable cadres. The policy toward cadres who have given meritorious service to the revolution and those who retired was at an average level and sometimes unjustifiable. As a result, we have not been able to create a new motive to encourage cadres to develop their capabilities. It can be said that our incentive and punishment system is obviously unjust and not serious enough.

Moreover, we have not invested much in the aspect of cadre training. We still cling to the old, obsolete training system while the teaching and learning methods have not been renovated and schooling has not been rationally

rearranged. Noteworthy is that expenses in training and fostering cadres have not been clearly defined. At present, localities make their own decision for expenses in this regard, thus creating differentials in terms of money used for this task.

It is noteworthy, however, that income distributed through the wage and incentive system has not accurately and fully paid the real labor of cadres and workers at agencies and sectors. This is another factor discouraging cadres from working for the party, mass organizations, or grass-roots units.

Fourth, cadre-management work is not satisfactory and has not reflected the principle of the party uniformly supervising and managing cadres. There are duplications in the management and appraisal of cadres while the division of labor and authority has not been clearly defined. As a result, one of the factors leading to the inaccurate appraisal of cadres rests with the lack of information and different ways of approach. Many key, leading cadres have not been directly engaged in cadre-related tasks while having a poor understanding of their cadres. Worse still is that many localities and units hold that the cadre-related task is the sole responsibility of the party Central Committee Organization Department, but, in fact, this department only supervises party committees who carry out the task.

In the present situation, efforts must be made to attach importance to ensuring internal political stability. In the recent past, the cadre-management task has not been

closely combined with the task of maintaining political stability, especially implementation of party lines and policies and promotion of human resources. We must strive to enhance our vigilance against those political opportunists and reactionaries who want to infiltrate our ranks, especially the leading and staff agencies of our party and state.

In the face of this reality, we must strive to pay closer attention to reviewing our cadre-related tasks and study newly arising issues in the new mechanism to truly contribute to enhancing the capability and intelligence of our cadres to catch up with developments in the new stage. (to be continued)

Prime Minister Sends Message to Flood Victims

BK0710045993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Today Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet sent a message to Phu Yen provincial people's committee expressing sympathy to the flood victims and commending the people, administration, mass organizations, and Armed Forces for their efforts in minimizing losses and assisting the people there.

The message said that the government has instructed the Ministries of Communications and Transportation, Public Health, Labor, War Invalids and Social Welfare, and Finance to assign officials to Phu Yen to help the province overcome difficulties, restore production, prevent epidemic disease, and quickly stabilize daily life.

Australia

Chilean President Holds Canberra News Briefing

PY0710132193 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] The budget for the Chilean Armed Forces is determined by the international situation. This remark was made by President Patricio Aylwin during a news conference in Canberra, Australia. The president was also involved in other activities on his tour's agenda. At the Federal Parliament House in Canberra, President Aylwin unveiled a plaque in honor of Australian Prime Minister John Watson, who was born in the port of Valparaiso. Present at the ceremony was Prime Minister Paul Keating, who hosted a banquet for his Chilean visitor.

President Aylwin noted that the new international economic order is going through a period of transition, with uncertainties representing a threat to nations such as ours. In expressing his appreciation for a doctor's degree in arts bestowed upon him by the University of La Trobe in Melbourne, Australia, he delivered a speech chiefly focusing on economic issues. Aylwin pointed out that the old military rivalry has been replaced by economic competition, which can be either fair or unfair.

Aylwin Departs for Santiago

BK0710104793 Hong Kong AFP in English 0923 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Melbourne, Australia, Oct 7 (AFP)—Chilean President Patricio Aylwin left here for home Thursday after a three-day visit marred by protest but likely to strengthen economic links between the two countries. Even his arrival at Melbourne's La Trobe University to be presented with an honorary doctorate was greeted Thursday by a noisy band of about 60 protesters who whistled, banged drums and called for justice and human rights in Chile. The demonstrators, mostly Chilean exiles, chanted throughout the ceremony and the aging President prefaced his prepared speech on trade with an apology through an interpreter for the behaviour of his compatriots outside.

In a lunchtime speech to a business audience here, he said Chile was now "in the path of progress and freedom.

"We have recovered our democratic tradition, which is more than one century old, and left behind the dark years of authoritarianism and desecration of human dignity, and of barren and costly confrontations."

Aylwin's visit was the first by a Chilean head of state to Australia, which is Chile's third largest foreign investor. While he and his party were warmly welcomed at an official and business level, they had to face protest even in Canberra's Parliament House where he was visibly upset by a petition from 61 federal MP's. The petition, delivered during a formal government luncheon, said the perpetrators of torture and killings should be exposed

and the government's failure to resolve the issue would damage its international reputation.

Aylwin strongly defended the record of his centre-left coalition government, saying the MP's had been misinformed because he had never proposed an amnesty for those responsible for human rights violations.

Talks with Prime Minister Paul Keating focussed on bilateral trading links—Australia sees Chile as a springboard to the expanding Latin American market, while Chile sees Australia is a springboard to the Asia-Pacific region. Two-way trade was valued at 120 million Australian dollars (80 million U.S.) last financial year, but Australian investment in Chilean industry, mostly mining and telecommunications, is worth more than (?70) million dollars.

Unemployment Rate Dips 'Slightly' in Sep

BK0710063193 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Australia's high level of unemployment has fallen slightly with the government cautiously noting that there are now indications across the board of uniform improvement in the economy. Figures from the official Bureau of Statistics show Australia's jobless rate fell marginally from 11.1 percent to 10.9 percent in September. And it came at the same time as an increase in the work force participation rate, that is the number of people in jobs and the number looking for jobs. The figures show part-time jobs growth continues to be significantly stronger than full-time jobs growth, a trend evident for a decade. The federal employment minister, Kim Beazley, greeted the figures with cautious optimism.

[Begin Beazley recording] It's nice to see a figure where the participation rate is increasing, but the rate of unemployment is also coming down. And so from that point of view these figures are a little more encouraging than those that we have had for some time. At the same time, and I don't want to go overboard on the subject, the underlying rate of unemployment is flat, albeit flat against an increased participation rate. It's a point that we've made for some time now though we have growth in the economy—better growth than virtually any other country in the industrialized world—nevertheless that growth is not enough to produce anything like acceptable unemployment figures. [end recording]

The prime minister has ordered a paper be produced in coming months on tackling Australia's persistent unemployment problem. Employment Minister Beazley says tackling long-term unemployment will have to be a continuing focus though the number of long-term unemployed appears to have peaked below government expectations.

New Zealand

Labour Calls for Initiative on French Testing

*BK0810053893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0129 GMT
8 Oct 93*

[Text] Wellington, Oct 8 (AFP)—Opposition Labour leader Mike Moore said Friday Pacific nations should call in their respective French ambassadors to express their anger at the possibility of France resuming nuclear testing in the region. French Defence Minister Francois Leotard told a news conference in Paris Thursday that France would have to carry out further nuclear tests before signing an international test ban. The minister spoke a day after the French government said it would not for the time being break its self-imposed testing moratorium in reply to a Chinese underground blast this week.

France's aim was to replace underground blasts by laboratory simulation but "before we do this, we will

need at one point to carry out several tests, probably very small ones, to verify our experiments," Leotard said.

France's nuclear testing sites are at Mururoa in French Polynesia. Moore said Foreign Minister Don McKinnon would have Labour's support if he communicated New Zealand's dismay at the possible resumption of testing to the French ambassador.

"Mr. McKinnon now ought to launch a Pacific initiative to seek support from all the foreign ministers in the Pacific," Moore said in a statement.

McKinnon called in Chinese Ambassador Li Jinhua on Wednesday to deliver a protest over China exploding a nuclear device at their Lop Nor underground testing site.

The Chinese test prompted fears that a self-imposed moratorium on testing by nuclear nations could end, but French President Francois Mitterand said there were no immediate plans to resume testing.

